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2014 TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS REPORT

CNMI tagged anew as 'forced labor and sex trafficking' site

» **Former CNMI immigration director says US now controls islands' immigration**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI has once again been tagged as a "destination and transit location for men, women, and children subjected to forced labor and sex trafficking," based on the U.S. State Department's newly released 2014 Trafficking in Persons Report. But Rep. Tony Sablan (Ind-Saipan), a former CNMI immigration director,

is leery about the report's continued labeling of the islands since the federal government now controls CNMI immigration.

"I just hope that their evaluation is true. Where's the actual data to back up their report that the CNMI is still [a destination and transit location] for sex trafficking and forced labor? Again, I question the facts in this report. And if there's

See TRAFFICKING on Page 4

Woman, unborn baby killed in car crash

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

A woman and her unborn 5-month-old baby were killed while three other occupants of a Toyota Sienna van were injured when the vehicle they were riding crashed into a power pole along As Perdido Road on Sunday morning.

Traffic investigators determined that speed was the major cause of the crash, according to Department of Public Safety police spokesman

See WOMAN on Page 4

HOUSE FIRE

A house in Chalan Kiya is completely destroyed by fire in the early morning of June 20, 2014. The American Red Cross NMI Chapter, which provided assistance to the family who were victims of the fire, said that no one was seriously hurt.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

See story on Page 14



Housing perk for CHC staff to end in Sept.

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The law that created the housing benefit for off-island hires of the public hospital has long expired and its sunset provision must now be enforced, according to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Esther L. Muña.

Muña targets the removal of this benefit by the end of the fiscal year in September.

» **Corporation says sunset provision had long expired**

Even before the corporation's inception, the Commonwealth Health Center has long been providing housing allowances to medical staff and providers it hires from outside the Commonwealth. The perk is \$600

See HOUSING on Page 4

Feds' help sought on Rota air service 'crisis'

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rota's lack of air transportation has gotten so bad that more residents have taken to using speed boats and other small sea vessels to reach Guam and vice versa. Senators led by Sen. Paul Manglona (Ind-Rota) are

turning to the U.S. Department of Transportation for help as air service seats from Rota to both Guam and Saipan have gone down by more than 50 percent in total and without formal notification to the federal government beyond the 33-percent reporting threshold.

See FEDS on Page 4

» **Senate urges United, Star Marianas, others to take part in 'essential air service program'**

'Governor's order on CUC fuel contract is invalid' PAGE 2
NMI's May visitor arrivals same as May 2013. PAGE 5



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Local

‘Governor’s order on CUC fuel contract is invalid’

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
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REPORTER

The validity of the contract recently signed by the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. with Mobil Oil Mariana Islands is being questioned by the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission.

A June 13 report by CPUC hearing examiner Harry M. Boertzel indicated that the contract violates the commission’s regulations since CUC has yet to provide it a copy of the fuel contract, as directed by the commission.

Boertzel’s report describes a

troublesome regulatory history for the over \$300-million fuel contract, as recounted in the CPUC’s April 22, 2014, letter to Gov. Eloy S. Inos.

It was on March 26, 2014 when CUC filed a second amended petition for regulatory review and approval of the fuel procurement pursuant to CPUC’s Dec. 19, 2008, “Contract Review Order.”

Boertzel said that CPUC’s consultant—Georgetown Consulting—reviewed the procurement and filed a report on April 13 this year. However, on April 15, Inos issued Executive Order 2014-06, which suspended

CPUC’s regulatory authority over the procurement and to authorize CUC to enter into a fuel contract without regulatory approval.

“By an opinion dated May 13, 2014, commission counsel determined that the EO is invalid, which in turn raises serious doubt about the validity of the fuel contract—absent regulatory approval...,” stated the hearing examiner’s report. This opinion was provided to the governor and CUC.

Boertzel’s report further disclosed that on May 22, 2014, the CPUC directed CUC to provide it with a copy of the fuel contract not later than May 23, 2014.

“CUC currently stands in violation of this directive. The commission should consult with its counsel regarding an appropriate regulatory response to these disturbing events concerning the fuel procurement,” added the examiner’s June 13 report.

CUC’s executive director Alan W. Fletcher had yet to respond as of press time yesterday.

CUC and Mobil inked the six-year \$360 million fuel contract on May 1. Mobil Oil’s previous contract expired on April 30, 2014.

Under its previous contract, CUC owed Mobil Oil a total of \$7.6 million. Of this debt, \$1.3 million represents the penal-

ties incurred by CUC for not consuming the minimum contracted amount. The remaining

\$6.3 million, meantime, represents all the debts CUC owes the company.

Man testifies of how terrified he was when Borja pointed gun at his head

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
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REPORTER

A man testified yesterday how terrified he was when Ji Jing Borja allegedly pointed a gun at him shortly after he asked for cigarettes from him.

“I felt scared, shaking. I thought I was going to die that night,” said the 22-year-old Jerry J. Sammy, who took the witness stand during yesterday’s start of the jury trial of Borja.

Sammy said he and some friends had been drinking on the evening of Jan. 4, 2012, when they proceeded to western Garapan. Sammy said he saw Borja near a store and asked him for a cigarette. He said it was his first time to meet Borja.

Sammy said Borja replied that he had no cigarettes.

Sammy said he may have said something that offended Borja, who left and then returned and pointed a gun at his head. The alleged victim said Borja asked him if he wanted to die.

During cross-examination by defense counsel Daniel Guidotti, Sammy said he did not recall telling the police during interview that he saw Borja had cigarettes.

Sammy said he also could not remember swearing at Borja.

Sammy admitted that he was convicted in 2009 for breaking into Jonny’s Bar and

Grill in Garapan.

When Guidotti showed a Superior Court’s order, he corrected that he was actually convicted in July 2010 and was slapped with six months in prison.

Sammy also denied that he was still on probation when the incident with Borja happened.

But when Guidotti showed him the same court order, Sammy admitted he was indeed under probation at that time.

Before Sammy’s testimony, assistant attorney general Chere McField called police detective Elias Saralu and evidence custodian Marylou Tanaka.

Saralu testified that he responded to the scene after he was dispatched to the Paseo de Marianas that night of Jan. 4, 2012.

Saralu said it was the 911 caller, a security guard, who handed him the Ruger P89 9mm handgun that was allegedly recovered from Borja.

Saralu said the handgun had no bullet.

Saralu said the alleged victim identified Borja in a six-photo lineup that he showed him.

The government earlier dropped the charge of unlawful possession of a firearm against Borja.

The jury trial is proceeding with the remaining charges of assault with a dangerous weapon and disturbing the peace.

Borja is presently out on bail.



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In its response to the Request for Proposal for Casino Resort Developer License, Best Sunshine introduced its plans to create a Community Chest with an initial contribution of

US\$10,000,000 CASH

to be distributed to locally-born adults in the CNMI in the form of CUC cash vouchers within 60 days of Best Sunshine being awarded the exclusive license

Based on survey results and discussions with stakeholders in the community, Best Sunshine will commit the following additional funds to the Community Chest

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Inos asks Korea for 'alternative penalty' on Asiana

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Eloy S. Inos asked the South Korean government on Friday to consider assessing an "alternative penalty" on Asiana Airlines over safety rule violation instead of suspending its flights to and from Saipan for seven days, the potential impact of which on the CNMI economy is estimated at \$6.7 million based on a load factor of 80 percent.

The governor told Korea's Minister of Land, Infrastructure and Transport Suh Seoung-hwan that while the CNMI fully understands Asiana Airlines' breach of safety rules, it is also deeply concerned that the proposed flight suspension penalty would cause "economic injury" to the CNMI.

"As you may know, tourism is our sole economic driver and visitor arrivals from Korea account for 35 percent of our total visitor mix. Asiana Airlines is the sole

carrier between our two countries; and a suspension as recommended will cause economic injury to the CNMI's already fragile economy," Inos told the minister in a one-page letter.

While the governor fell short of suggesting a specific type of alternate penalty, some officials including House Tourism Committee chair Ralph Yumul (Ind-Saipan) said yesterday that a monetary fine on Asiana Airlines would at least cushion the economic impact on the CNMI.

"By suspending Asiana's flights, the CNMI will be indirectly penalized because that translates to millions of revenue loss for the CNMI. Suggesting an alternative penalty, which could be monetary fine, is a step in the right direction to protect the CNMI from the actions of the airline crewmembers," Yumul told *Saipan Tribune*.

The governor said it is the CNMI's understanding that Asiana Airlines acknowledges

its safety violation "and will not dispute the government of the Republic of Korea's action."

He said the CNMI fully understands that Asiana Airlines' breach of safety rules comes at a sensitive time following the *Seoul* ferry accident, and that his letter does not serve to interfere with this process or the ministry's effort to reinforce safety measures with its national carriers.

But the governor said the CNMI is "deeply concerned" about the proposed penalty to suspend air service from Korea to Saipan for seven days.

"In this regard, and with respect to the function of your office, my office and the people of the CNMI request your consideration in assessing an alternative penalty for Asiana Airlines' breach of safety rules instead of the suspension of flights," Inos told the minister.

Marianas Visitors Authority managing director Perry J. Tenorio earlier said suspending

Asiana Airlines flights to Saipan for seven days could result in an estimated \$6.7 million economic loss to the CNMI based on a load factor of 80 percent.

MVA said Asiana Airlines is currently providing 3,774 seats per week to the CNMI.

Korea's Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport announced two weeks ago a suspension of Asiana Airlines' flights to Saipan for seven days for continuing with a passenger jet flight, OZ603, from Incheon to Saipan on April 19 despite discovering signs of engine trouble after takeoff. A warning light came on, signaling a problem in one of the plane's two engines.

New law, CUC appointee

In other news, the governor signed into law on Friday a bill providing the Public Utilities Commission with the authority to require management audits of regulated entities.

Rep. Christopher Leon Guerrero's (Cov-Saipan) House Bill 18-151, House Substitute 1 is

of the Department of Public Health.

"The housing allowance is basically a benefit that has to go because it's not given to everybody. What we're saying now is, based on the sunset provision, we have to stop it," she said. She assured that the management will sit down with affected employees on this issue.

The corporation, which is only given a meager budget through local appropriation, continues to face fiscal challenges in its day-to-day operations. Muña explained that housing benefits, which is taxable, is a clear expenditure for the agency.

Manglona told DOT's Kurland in his two-page letter.

Manglona said even though Freedom Air has not officially informed Kurland's office of its air service suspension as a result of their financial difficulties, "technically this is what happened."

The senator pointed out that DOT's minimum essential air service determination for Rota "is not currently being met, and it appears that this situation will continue for at least a year, if it even gets resolved in court."

The senator hopes that Kurland's office can assist the CNMI by working with the Commonwealth Ports Authority, the local agency tasked with managing the CNMI's airports, and existing airlines so they can be informed of the requirements for providing air service under DOT's EAS Program.

Tomorrow, Manglona is set to formally introduce Senate Joint Resolution 18-8, requesting United Airlines, Star Marianas, and any other airline to participate in DOT's EAS Program to provide regularly scheduled flights to Rota.

now Public Law 18-52.

The governor also appointed on Friday Evelyn M. Mendiola to serve on the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board of directors representing Rota.

WOMAN

From Page 1

Travis Hurst yesterday.

Hurst said initial reports indicate the van was en route to Sunday church services.

DPS firefighters had to use the Jaws of Life tool to extract the victims who were trapped inside the van.

Hurst said the victims' names are not being released at this time.

He said the fatality, a 36-year-old Chinese national, suffered severe head trauma.

The driver, a 58-year-old Korean male, sustained a bruised left eye and a fractured jaw.

The other passengers were a 30-year-old Chinese woman, who complained of pain on the left hip, and a 2-year-old Chinese boy who sustained a fractured left femur and abrasions on the head and shoulder.

Police investigation showed that DPS Central dispatched police traffic units to a reported auto-ran off crash along As Perdido Road on Sunday at 11am.

TRAFFICKING

From Page 1

someone that should answer to this, it should be the U.S. government or DHS [Department of Homeland Security] and agencies under it because they are now supposed to control our borders," Sablan told *Saipan Tribune*.

The State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report is an important instrument to assess the current state of anti-trafficking responses in each country.

The CNMI and Guam's classifications, along with other U.S. territories', didn't change from the 2013 Trafficking in Persons Report. Guam, the report says, is a "source and transit location" for persons subjected to "forced labor and sex trafficking."

In February 2014, the report says, the U.S. District Court for the CNMI accepted the guilty plea of a woman for child sex trafficking.

In a separate case, the court sentenced a defendant for the sex trafficking of a Chinese woman at a karaoke club to 235 months in prison and ordered almost \$10,000 in restitution to the victim, the report adds.

Still, the CNMI's former immigration director said the U.S. government does not have statistics to show whether the number of cases of human trafficking and forced labor has gone down, the number of cases filed, and the number of cases resolved, among other things.

"How many cases [did] they look at to arrive at that conclusion? The U.S. federal government is now controlling CNMI

Mendiola's initial appointment requires the Senate's advice and consent. If confirmed, Mendiola will serve a four-year term that shall begin on the date of her confirmation.

Police Sgt. Anthony Macaranas arrived at the scene at 11:03am and saw a white Toyota Sienna van resting next to a Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power pole. The van had extensive damage on its driver's side rear door.

The crash occurred on the eastbound shoulder of the road by the curve between William S. Reyes Elementary School and Department of Lands and Natural Resources-Agricultural Center.

Macaranas sought assistance from DPS Fire medics and traffic investigators after seeing the occupants trapped inside the van.

DPS Fire Rescue personnel removed all victims from the van by using a Jaws of Life tool and brought them to the Commonwealth Health Center.

"This case is still pending further investigation but speed was found to have been the major cause of this crash," Hurst said.

The pregnant woman and her unborn baby are the first fatalities of a vehicular crash in the CNMI this year.

immigration, they should also be able to answer that," Sablan added.

The Federated States of Micronesia's standing was upgraded this year, based on the State Department's latest report.

The 2014 TIP Report comes six months after FSM President Emanuel Mori and Marshall Islands President Christopher Loeak told the Micronesian Chief Executives' Summit on Saipan in December that 2013 TIP Report listing their islands under a "Tier 2 watch list" for human trafficking and sex trafficking do not reflect the real situation in their areas and hurt their image and economic development.

FSM—which is composed of Pohnpei, Chuuk, Yap, and Kosrae—is among the 15 countries upgraded in the 2014 report.

There are four tiers: Tier 1, Tier 2, Tier 2 Watch List, and Tier 4. Tier 1 countries include governments fully compliant with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. While the U.S. puts itself on the Tier 1 category, the State Department acknowledged its own problems fighting trafficking.

U.S. State Secretary John F. Kerry, in the release of the 2014 TIP Report, said each has a "responsibility to make this horrific and all-too-common crime a lot less common."

"And our work with victims is the key that will open the door to real change—not just on behalf of the more than 44,000 survivors who have been identified in the past year, but also for the more than 20 million victims of trafficking who have not," he said.

HOUSING

From Page 1

a month for single employees and \$800 a month for those with families.

"The housing benefit has to go. We have a sunset provision that basically says that anybody working more than five years [in the hospital] should not be getting this housing benefit and we will do that," Muña told *Saipan Tribune*.

A sunset provision is a clause within a statute or regulation that provides that the law shall cease to have effect after a specific date, unless the Legislature extends it.

Muña said the then-Department of Public Health continued to provide this benefit despite the sunset provision of the law.

"That expired a long time ago but because there was no planning, the department continued implementing this benefit. With the challenges we're facing now, we decided to have this removed," she said.

Muña assured, however, that a new compensation schedule would be enforced in lieu of this housing perks for off-island hires.

"We're looking at probably by end of the fiscal year. Myself and the hospital services director [Jesse Tudela] are now working on adjusting the salary

of our employees, not only for off-island recruits but also for those locally hired, where a portion of the housing allowance will be incorporated in their contract," she said.

Muña, however, could not immediately give an estimate of how much employees' salaries will go up. The final amount will depend on credentials, years of service, and employee performance.

The goal, she said, is to bring "fairness and equity" among off-island and local hires.

Based on CHCC records, it has over 100 employees that receive this benefit, mostly nurses recruited from the Philippines way back in the days

caused some off-island visitors to miss this year's Pacific Islands Bilingual and Bicultural Association Conference on Rota this week. The PIBBA conference is from June 23 to 26.

"The flights and seats are limited. Some residents travel between Rota and Guam by boat, that's three to four hours in calm waters," she said. "Rota used to have an almost daily flight, except Wednesdays, courtesy of Cape Air but that went down to only a few days a week. Freedom Air has ran into financial problems. Star Marianas also provides limited flights, and could charter flights for almost \$800 per flight I believe."

On Saturday, Manglona wrote a letter to Susan Kurland, assistant secretary for aviation and international affairs under DOT's Office of the Under Secretary for Policy, requesting help with Rota's air service crisis through the EAS Program.

The letter was sent a day after senators took turns discussing during a session possible ways to address Rota's air service woes.

Manglona cited Section 323.2(a)(2) of DOT's aviation

economic regulations. This requires carriers to file a 90-day notice if they intend to suspend their operation, especially if the plan would result in a reduction of total seats by at least 33 percent linking the point (Rota) to Federal Aviation Administration-designated hubs; in this case Saipan and Guam, the senator said.

The senator said Freedom Air's Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing with the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District Court of Guam in late 2013 eventually resulted in a reduction "of more than 50 percent of the Rota seats to both Guam and Saipan this year."

Freedom Air used to provide two daily non-stop flights to both Saipan and Guam with their 33-seat Shorts 330 aircraft.

With the reduction in seats and flights to and from Rota, residents have to make two-week advance flight reservation to secure a seat.

"This is oftentimes problematic for many residents, especially those who are seeking medical attention and education and business opportunities on Saipan or Guam and beyond,"

FEDS'

From Page 1

Manglona told the federal agency that an "air service crisis" is happening on Rota.

The senator said more Rota residents are now using speed boats, for example, to travel between Rota and Guam.

"They are taking the chance with two to three hours travel by boat from Rota to Guam, and three to four hours from Guam to Rota. They don't have a choice. It's their last option because there are very limited air seats to and from Rota," Manglona told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

At the same time, Manglona, Sen. Pete Reyes (Ind-Saipan), and other senators are requesting United Airlines, Star Marianas, and any other airline to participate in DOT's Essential Air Service, or EAS, Program to provide regularly scheduled flights to Rota.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) said last night that the "limited flights and seats to and from Rota" have become more pronounced in recent period, and

NMI's May visitor arrivals same as May 2013

May 2014 visitor arrivals to the Northern Mariana Islands were nearly the same as May 2013. According to the Marianas Visitors Authority, arrivals to the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota registered 32,797 visitors in May 2014, compared to 32,913 visitors received in May 2013.

Arrivals from China soared 46 percent to 13,362 visitors, making it the largest source market for the CNMI in May. Century Tours launched two additional charter flights from

Beijing to Saipan starting May 1, generating four flights a week from Beijing operated by China Eastern Airlines. In addition, Century Tours and Dynamic Airways launched charter flights from Hong Kong to Saipan on May 18, with a charter flight every five days, which has significantly increased seat capacity from the southern China market.

Arrivals from Russia grew slightly by 3 percent to 968 visitors in April, making Rus-

sia the top-performing market so far this fiscal year, with 36 percent growth compared to the same period in fiscal year 2013. Growth recently, however, has slowed as Russia's economy suffers from the impact of the Ukraine crisis, and outbound travel to all destinations worldwide has slowed dramatically.

Arrivals from Japan fell 21 percent to 7,136 visitors in May. This was driven primarily by a 16-percent decline in air seat supply from Narita, which impacted the Japanese market heavily. Delta Air Lines temporarily suspended two night-flights per week from Narita beginning in April.

Japan continues to suffer from an airlift crisis and urgent-

ly needs the entry of a low-cost carrier into the market as seen in the past 12 months in both the Korea and China markets.

Arrivals from Korea were lower for the second consecutive month this fiscal year, registering 21 percent lower in May at 9,075 visitors. Following the *Sewol* ferry tragedy in April, the number of Korean outbound travelers has fallen significantly as it was not considered appropriate for Koreans to travel outbound on vacation in May in the context of this national tragedy. Meanwhile, Jeju Air, South Korea's largest low-cost carrier, announced it will launch daily flights to Saipan from Seoul starting Oct. 1, 2014. Jeju Air will use

its Boeing 737-800 jets, which can carry up to 189 passengers, adding over 68,000 seats from Korea to the CNMI during the coming year, generating an economic impact for the CNMI of over \$122 million.

Economic highlights

The Japan government's economic assessment for May remains unchanged from the previous month, stating that the Japanese economy is on a "moderate" recovery trend, while some weak movements have been seen lately from the last-minute rise in demand before consumption tax increased in April. The yen hovered around 102 to the U.S. dollar; as of May 29, exchange rates stood at 101.68 yen to the U.S. dollar.

The Korean economy continued to improve as employment and inflation remained stable in April and industrial indicators, which were poor in February, showed some recovery in March. The won/dollar exchange rate fell 10.71 over the past month to be closed at 1,019.47 won per dollar.

The preliminary Purchasing Managers Index for Chinese manufacturing in May beat expectations by posting a five-month high based on a rebound in output and orders. The Chinese currency renminbi, or the yuan, strengthened 23 basis points to 6.1542 against the U.S. dollar on May 21, according to the China Foreign Exchange Trading System. (MVA)

Air Force training on FDM, at Warning Area 517 set

The U.S. Air Force will conduct training at the island of Farallon de Medinilla on June 23, from noon to 4pm; on June 24, from 7am to 12:30pm and 2pm to 5pm; and on June 26, from 8am to 1pm and 2pm to 5pm.

The U.S. Air Force will also conduct training at W-517 June 24-27, from 6am to 8pm.

The general public especially fishermen, commercial pilots and marine tour operators are advised to stay clear from the area during the

times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10 nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising of 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)

Thank You!
The Committee to Re-Elect
Richard Benavente Seman
would like to extend its sincere appreciation to all who supported his dinner fundraising on June 13, 2014.
Si Yu'us-Ma'ase, Ghilisow, Thank You.

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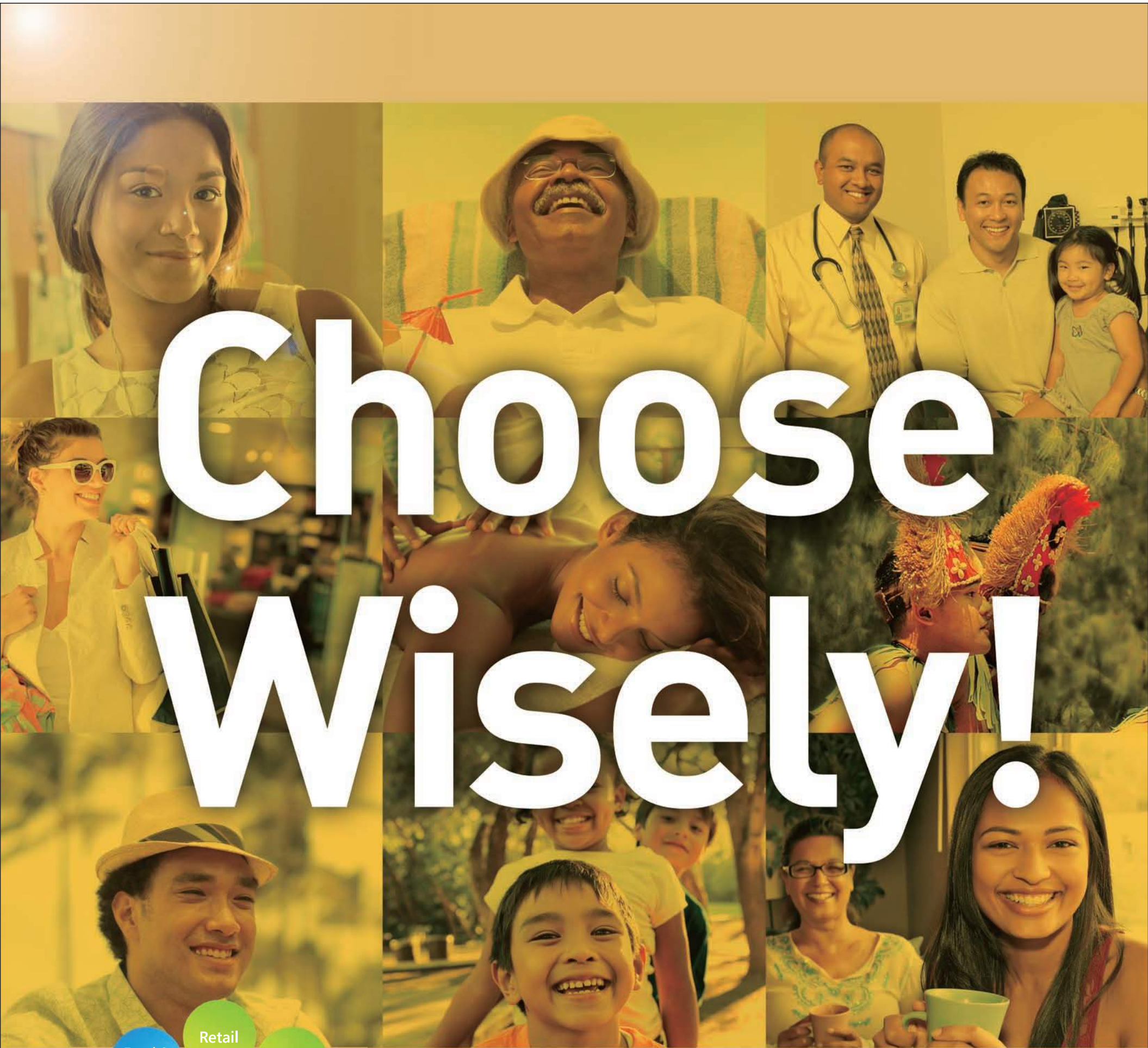
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NMC Foundation Golf Tournament this Saturday

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Participants from the last NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament pauses from their game to take a quick photo. The 11th Annual NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament is this Saturday, June 28, 2014 at the West Course of the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort.

The Northern Marianas College Foundation is encouraging all golfers to participate in this Saturday's 11th NMC Foundation Open Golf Tournament.

The event is part of the Foundation's efforts to help advance postsecondary education in the CNMI and will be held on Saturday, June 28, 2014, at the West Course of the Laolao Bay Golf and Resort. This will be the eleventh year the tournament has been held.

The NMC Foundation is composed of community volunteers committed to elevating higher education opportunities for CNMI students. Proceeds from the tournament and cash donations will directly benefit NMC's educational programs and services.

"On behalf of the NMC Foundation, I would like to thank all past supporters for their investment in our community. I call upon the same supporters as well as other members of this great community to contribute to our one and only community college in helping students achieve their goal of obtaining a degree in higher education," said NMC Foundation president Joe Santos. "All proceeds will go to the NMC Foundation, which is charged with the mission of supporting our great community college."

The entrance fee for the tournament is only \$95 per player. Interested players are also invited to bring their family, friends, and playing partners for a fantastic day of fun and fundraising for a good cause.

The tournament will be a top 5 Double Peoria. The first place winner will receive a \$300 cash prize, second place receives \$200 cash, third place \$100 cash, fourth and fifth place will receive a consolation prize.

The NMC Foundation is also asking companies or individuals who can contribute Education Tax Credit, monetary, or in-kind donations to sponsor the tournament. Those interested in taking the opportunity to sponsor the event or who are interested in registering to play can contact the Northern Marianas College at 234-5498 Ext. 6780 or email richard.villagomez@marianas.edu. (NMC)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

June 24, 2006

'No COLA payment in '06'

For 2006, the NMI government retirees' cost of living allowance rose to 4.1 percent—an increase of more than 50 percent compared with last year's 2.7 percent. The sad news is, the government doesn't have the money to pay for it this year. "By law, we are supposed to receive funding from the government. It is legislated through Public Law 8-31, but we've never received it from Day 1," said Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes. The COLA obligation this year translates to about \$1.3 million. Reyes said the 4.1 percent rate is based on the Social Security rate. He said the NMI government is required by law to follow the Social Security rate and not to go below 2 percent.

Fire hits empty barracks on Tinian

A fire hit an abandoned Tinian Stevedore's barracks in San Jose, Tinian Thursday morning. No one was hurt in the blaze that broke out at 10:30am, according to Department of Public Safety spokesman Ken Concepcion. Concepcion said Tinian fire fighters extinguished the blaze after 30 minutes. The fire caused major damage to the three-unit building. Acting Tinian director Silvestre Palacios assisted firefighters and police investigators at the scene. Tinian resident John Mixson said that the fire burned itself out within an hour and a half.

June 24, 2007

DPH recalls contact lens solution

The Public Health Department has issued a recall notice for a contact lens solution that is suspected of being linked to eye infections. The Bureau of Environmental Health is currently recalling contact lens solution with brand name Complete® MoisturePlus™, a product of Advanced Medical Optics. Public Health Secretary Joseph Kevin P. Villagomez said the bureau has already removed 209 units of this product from various stores and distributors on Saipan since June 5 this year.

Saipan's newest priest

More than nine years of study paid off for newly ordained priest Fr. Jesse Raymond T. Reyes, after he celebrated his first thanksgiving Mass on Saipan early this month. Reyes, 35, was ordained into the priesthood last June 10 at the Mt. Carmel Cathedral, officiated by Bishop Tomas A. Camacho. Reyes said it was one of the happiest moments in his life. The new priest had attended San Vicente Elementary School, Mt. Carmel School and Marianas High School. Right after high school he went to Idaho to pursue higher education in psychology. Reyes said he had wanted to become a social worker since he was active in volunteer work at the hospital.

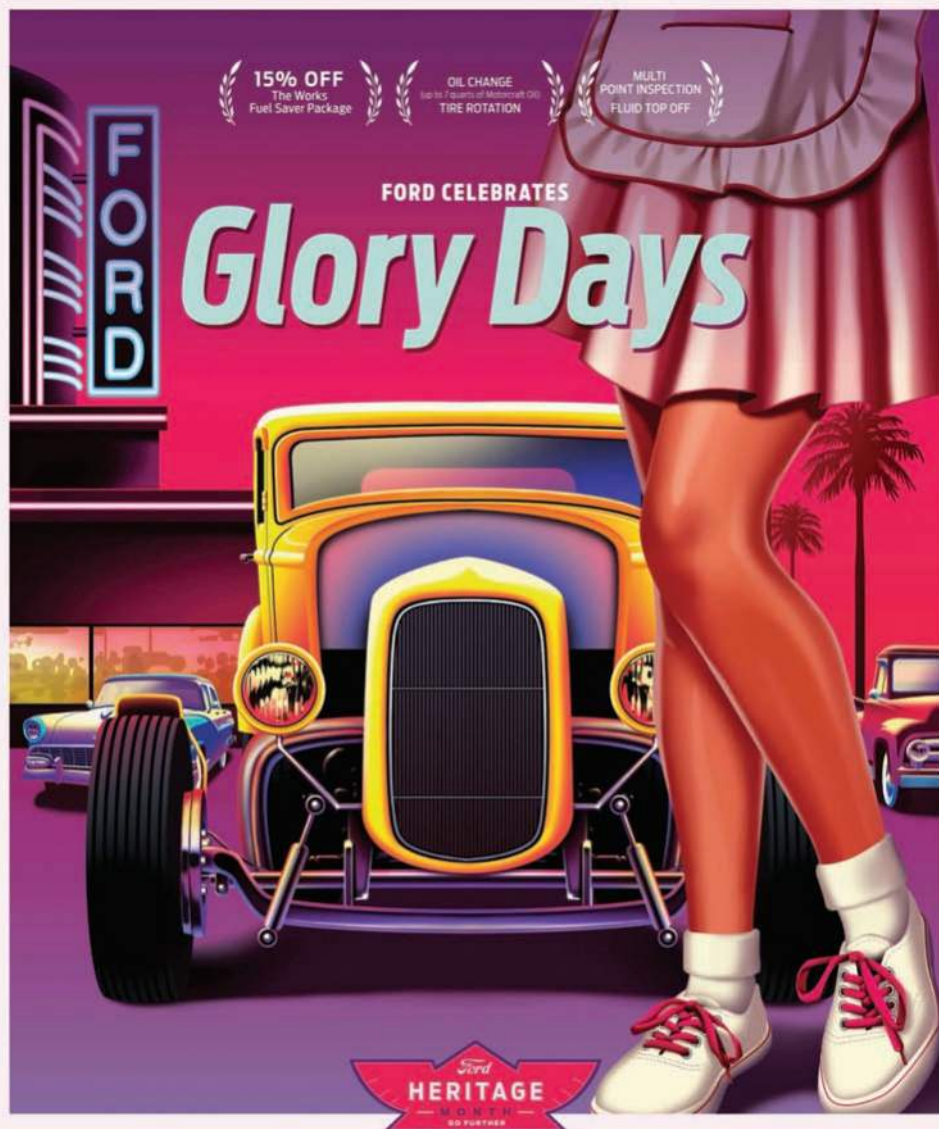
June 24, 2008

FEMA to grant CNMI \$38K to enhance emergency response

The Northern Mariana Islands has been allocated about \$38,400 by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to fund and improve the islands' emergency communications capabilities. The amount is part of the \$48 million under the Interoperable Emergency Communications Grant Program that the Department of Homeland Security approved for release yesterday to benefit States, territories, local units of government, and tribal communities. States and territories may apply for these funds through their State Administrative Agency by visiting www.grants.gov.

Loosened election day alcohol ban sought

Election Day drinking will be allowed at major tourist-oriented areas under a bill now before the House of Representatives. Rep. Rosemond B. Santos has introduced legislation to exempt major hotels and golf course resorts from the alcohol ban that is implemented every election day. A hotel must have at least 250 rooms to qualify for the exemption. Under existing law, an alcohol ban is put into effect every election day, while the polling places are open from 7am to 7pm. Anyone caught selling or buying liquor could be fined up to \$1,000 or sent to jail for up to 100 days in prison, or both. Santos noted that the alcohol ban is designed to prevent conflicts from escalating between party camps during elections. She said that tourists visiting the Commonwealth on election day should not be restricted from buying alcoholic beverage, as they are not involved with local political affairs.



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DO YOU CARE?

DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE IS HEARD ON WHETHER CASINO GAMING WILL BE ALLOWED ON SAIPAN? **MARIANAS STARS** supports the right of the people, either directly or through their elected representatives, to decide the future of their islands. We oppose any efforts to gut the referendum process. In legislative proceedings, we support a thorough, deliberate and transparent process where the people have the opportunity to be heard. We would be honored to be awarded a casino gaming license on Saipan, but only through a fair and transparent process that has the broad support of the people.

DO YOU CARE WHETHER TINIAN AND ROTA WILL PROSPER ALONG WITH SAIPAN? If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** has a plan to ensure that the islands will develop together. Our sister company has already invested over \$40 million on Tinian, and has plans to invest over \$600 million more for a 5-star hotel, luxury villas, a golf course, a water park and other projects. If we are fortunate enough to receive a license on Saipan, we would have every incentive to make sure that our projects on both islands prosper. Part of our plan would be to improve transportation links between the islands—not only to transport guests back and forth between Saipan and Tinian, but to provide much improved connections to Rota and Guam as well.

DO YOU CARE WHETHER THE CNMI GETS THE MONEY IT NEEDS TO HELP RETIREES, STUDENTS, WORKERS AND EVERYONE ELSE? If the people choose casino gaming on Saipan, **MARIANAS STARS** respectfully requests that the following proposal be considered: Don't just award one license, award two—assuming each applicant meets the qualifications. Take the current plan for one 2,000-room mega-resort and split it into two 1,000-room resorts. But keep the fees the same for each licensee, so that the CNMI gets a total of \$30 million per year from the two licensees rather than just \$15 million from one. Each applicant will get half a loaf, but the CNMI will get twice the revenue for the retirees. For health care. For schools. For infrastructure. For everyone. Healthy competition will create greater prosperity and greater accountability. More importantly, a non-monopoly assures the integrity of the process, removing any suspicion that legislation was rushed, or designed, for any one bidder.

DO YOU CARE? WE CARE. BECAUSE WE'RE ALREADY YOUR NEIGHBORS!

Si Yu'us Ma'ase. Oloomway. Thank You.

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Opinion

Hafa Adair!

Saipan Tribune

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EDITORIAL

Why Obama has to further engage his military in a region he wanted to jettison

Most days an announcement that the U.S. will send up to 300 military advisers to noncombat duty in some far-off land wouldn't get much media mention or public attention. Small deployments happen with some frequency, and many Americans never get past the headline. But these troops are going to Iraq—dispatched by a president who has boasted of ending a long war in that nation.

So Thursday's news from President Barack Obama revived arthritic reflexes:

Dovish isolationists fear that resuming U.S. military involvement will lead to a quagmire in Iraq and a loss of focus on the economy and other pressing business here at home. For them, the less military outreach overseas, the better. They see a misguided White House unable to resist temptations to meddle. By contrast ...

Hawkish interventionists see the deployment as too little too late—proof that this White House is obsessed with all that it won't do, such as bombing insurgent marauders, rather than with crafting coherent and lasting objectives in the greater Middle East. They see a flailing White House that invents timid policy on the fly.

No, we won't hide behind the hoary cliché that the truth lies somewhere between those polar positions. Both sides of this debate are making more of U.S. re-engagement in Iraq than it merits. They're smugly refighting their old wars as if thrilled to discover that you can indeed go home again. They're squeezing today's crises in Iraq and neighboring lands into the inflexible templates they forged long ago; some in both camps remain hostage to their disputes dating back four decades to Vietnam.

The facts driving Obama's decision are unpleasant for him and the Americans who'll deploy, but not especially complicated for the rest of us. He began his second term, remember, talking about domestic aspirations. Foreign policy? His administration would continue to reset relations with Russia and, in essence, pivot attention from the stuck-in-time Middle East to the emergent Pacific Rim. To the future.

But nobody asked the Middle East. With each U.S. step toward disengagement there, rampaging forces of repression and mass slaughter rushed to fill the voids.

In Libya, we bombed Moammar Gadhafi's regime but didn't stay to help shape a new government. Reasonable minds can disagree on whom to blame, but the country is a shambles; a formal civil war, should it convene, might bring some organization to the chaos. In Syria, where the president declined early on to meaningfully arm moderates trying to topple the Assad regime, the civilian death toll continues to rise. Islamist fighters now have carried that country's carnage to Iraq.

And Iraq is ripping apart at the seams.

The view from Washington can only flummox the White House: Iran, the Mideast nation most menacing to the U.S., has exploited these disruptions to extend its influence in a crescent that stretches west to the Mediterranean Sea. And although Afghanistan is its own challenge, Americans can't help but wonder if that nation, too, will deteriorate if and when the U.S. slashes its troop strength as the president has announced.

The most pressing threat to America's global interests, though, is the one Obama addressed Thursday: Unless someone

See OBAMA on Next Page

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Bamboo and the weather

In the movie *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*, warriors defying the laws of physics walk on billowing bamboo tops as they chase each other in a highly choreographed dance of *Tai Chi*, a remarkable feat of cinematography on the one hand, and a mythological drumming of the imagination on the other.

I stopped by Wudanshan in Shiyan Prefecture last year where the Taoist section of the *Wushu* martial arts of the movie was shot. From Shiyan in Hubei all the way to Fujian in the east coast are moso bamboo forests (*Phyllostachys edulis*, moso, or tortoise-shell bamboo, or *mao zhu*), remarkable for their bark's sheen and the absence of sticky spikes. The bamboo grows like the grass it is in China's eastern hills, plains and shores.

Living with the bamboo is an Asian source of rich metaphors. The tinkling *tinikling*, bamboo stick dance of my former archipelagic home, celebrates a lifestyle of avoiding the clashing bamboo branches in a storm (typhoon/hurricane) by dancing in between the clashes. Grace under pressure!

Were I Nikos sitting in Cyprus watching the clouds hovering over Olympus at a distance, I probably would not see anything across the Aegean, as I am sure the skies have become overcast like the rest of the planet. But the weather in Dong Bei in late May would have forgiven Nikos if he said that the Olympian gods had gone wild!

We already had rains in spring but I did not shelve the long john in our wardrobe, for the cold vacillated with the reluctant sun. We had a day when short sleeves left us sweating in the sweltering heat, shattered by lightning and thunder with cold winds in the early night. The following day, the sun came out strong again, until an afternoon hailstorm triggered all the automatic sound alarms in the parked vehicles to blast a discordant symphony of blaring sirens and flashing lights. Pedestrians sought cover under apartment door eaves, as umbrellas were no protection to the ice-cube sized hail that peppered parasols.

Hard rain pelted Guangdong southwest of Hong Kong, causing flooding in urban center Shenzhen. Nikos would be forgiven if he thought Zeus had been peeing under his toga and Minerva could not hold her countenance. But where rain was not needed, there was too much, and where it was needed so badly, nary was there a drop. My normal two-week spring did not last a couple of days. Summer arrived with a vengeance, making us suddenly neighbors to Taklimakan and the Gobi. My Shenyang sunroom is my solarium of potted plants. I usually sit in the morning to soak the warm rays, think and write but it turned into a Turkish spa with heat making cozy friends with my sweat pores.

The thunder and rain followed us in the wetlands of northeast Texas as storms darkened the skies and tornadoes touched down

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Jaime Vergara previously taught at SVES in the CNMI. A peripatetic pedagogue, he last taught in China but makes Honolulu, Shenyang, and Saipan home. He can be reached at pinoypanda2031@aol.com.



on Okie land, making an internationally diverse group gathered at a symposium on realistic living grateful for the relief from Texas heat, though fierce lightning in the night scared the bejesus out of our fragile souls. We found harsh winds in Chicago even as tornadoes wrecked homes in Wisconsin, ferocious twin twisters leveled Pilger, Nebraska, to the ground, and SD battled the twirls. Some powerful voices in Congress still find no alarm in the radical changes happening with our weather but denial has become more prominent than the river in Egypt.

The resilient bamboo grows fast and in some places is used as fancy flooring when made into plywood (plyboo@)—an eco-friendly alternative to hardwood. Full maturity happens in five years compared to hardwood that matures as long as 120 years. It is also self-renewing because the root system remains intact after harvest, preventing rapid soil erosion that follows hardwood harvests. In its natural environment, it grows without the assistance of chemicals (insecticides and pesticides). The carbon footprint in production and utilization is very low though some have criticized the transport cost since a majority of the product comes from China.

I am in no way suggesting a direct correlation between bamboo and the weather. The production of plyboo requires high urea formaldehyde (allegedly no longer used), a high dosage being a health hazard, though the material is widely used for bonding in toys. As a resin, it is a derivative from oil, so that is a plus in oil utilization. I am suggesting that where bamboo grows naturally, they can be cultivated for their eco-friendly quality rather than from the perspective of raking a profit. To be sure, activities surrounding its use have to be viable commercially to continue its use, but it is prudent not to make it a profit-making investment but rather as an inexpensive environmentally friendly ally, universally supported by the public through its governments.

As to the weather and climate change, the easy way out is denial. We are way past the option of restitution; our option is adaptive evolution, a metabolic change in the specie. We humans are resilient as the bamboo. Be pliant!

EDITORIAL POLICY

Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Hinanau Amigu as ‘RC’

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Solemne na saludu para i amiguhan yan tatan mame as “RC” (Jose C. Cabrera) ni dumiñgu hit guine gi mapos na semana. Respetau yan sumen mauleg na kilisyanu mina mauleg atan tatte finaposña.

Maseha fotmat yan frañku si RC gi todū ha petsige, kariñosu yan gai yine’ase lokue’ na korason tautau. Apmam yan i defunta asaguaña as Tan Rita de mumaestro. Apmam lokue’ de ha ayuda si sugroña Tatan Bisku gi bisnis. Dispues mañetbe gi Marianas District Legislature esta i 1977.

Hafa si RC pinegaña kumu petmanente lastru yan rekueddu para i manatatte? Deste ke hu dañā’e familiaña gi ‘nos kuantos fina’ sena, hu li’e na fuera de metgot yan mañge’ na dinaña familia, hana’ ya hululu’ edukasion yan kanta gi famaguoña.

Man-ma-eduka mauleg mientras dos dumaandan entre yan utimon semana gi gima’ Yuus. Estague’ i dos achon ha pega kumu rekueddoña gi famaguoña. Un bittu ni hu tatiye ginen as RC i klaru yan frañku umadiñgan. Gi mismu tiempu grasiosu, kariñosu yan motmut yine’ase’ gi mamopble na prohimuña siha.

Un’ tiempu sessu man-hame sumugun ga’ña guaka ‘an guaha fina’ matai ya mamaisen i familia guaka pot che’chu’ pininite. In’ chegue sin ditension ya in’ ayudaye kumatga gi sahyān dañkulu. Guaha na apas ensegidas. Guaha ha’ lokue’ umahnānau ti ma-apase.

An in’ kaikai ham para bai’n fan mañgopbla ha choma ham sin ditension. Man-añgoghu gi disposision ginen hilu’ ayu na ilelegña chamu kekepbla piot ya na’mase’. Dispues de ayu ni unabes ‘nai mente pot dibin guaka gi ‘nos kuantos familia.

Hu li’e mas mauleg sensiaña ‘nai finaisen ni ginen obispota tanu’ giya Kagman para usun gima’ Yuus. Sin ditension ha entrega ninaiña tanu’. Gaige pa’gu Gima Yuus Santa Soledat giya Kagman. Megai na famaguon para u fan matatpañge, primet kumuñion, konfitma yan madotrina pot lugat ni nina’en RC tanu para ayu na komunida. Fino’ña, nina’en i Saina ya dididi’ ha’ finaiseña para benefision todus gi machalapon finana’gueña. Estague’ ‘nai mas ‘nai anog yan klaru gineftau i amiguhan as RC. Parehu ham man-na’e tanu’ para Gima’ Yuus.

Lokue’, kada sakan gi ha’anēn gupot siha sumasaunau gi nobenan hagaña ‘ni manafagpu’ kanta, “Tafan Magof Todū”. Ilelegña

patte, “Jesus Yuus mame, gi nuebu na sakan, gai asi’ nu hame, apatta i dañu, na’e ni deskansu i mangaige ‘sta gi naftan, yan ayu seha kassu matai na sakan”.

Kada sakan gi ha’anēn gupot, sumaunau gi nobenan hagaña ‘nai sessu manafagpu’ kanta, “Tafan Magof Todū”. Ilelegña un’ patte, “Jesus Yuus mame, gi nuebu na sakan, gai asi’ nu hame, apatta i dañu, na’e ni deskansu i mangaige ‘sta gi naftan yan ayu seha kassu matai na sakan”.

Esta humanau i amiguhan gi galaide’ña gi katman na tasi gi lemlem tautau. I lago’ta umarega gi halom mapagahes ya u fresku kareña. Umatagam ni man-añghet ya umakonduse guatu gi Nanalibreta para u risibe I guaguan na premium. Pot todū RC Si Yuus Maase’, bien biahe. Si JR.

Gi halom man-tomtum

Macho’chu’ yan malulog-yu’ gi halom man-menhalom, tomtum yan edukau na man-ma’gas nasion isla siha gi todū atmos bandan tasin Pasifiku.

Deste primet palabran ‘nos kuantos guihe na redondu libianu un’ li’e mañgalagtos niha. Ayu ‘nai hu pesson ñaihon i taduñg na kinemprenden niha gi man-sustansiau siha na asuntu. Todū i tiempu pot adelantu gi tautau ni marepresenta ya hululu’ gi intension yan disposision asuntun linahyan.

Megai ‘nai hu tañga na taiguine mohon na modu yan eskalera ni makondudukta dineskuten asuntun publiku guine. Lau mampos

chagu’ na puntan tasi ‘nai ta huhuñgog ekun haf’ propiu para i linahyan. Sessu fatta mañan tomtum yan menhalom gi asuntota siha gi hegsu I Deni’. Kau mampos kanifes i mañglu’ guihe hulu’?

Dispues de hu akanteha hafa sessu mohon na taiguine finatsoña konsiderasion asuntun linahyan siha. Umanog primera defektu gaige gi eskalera edukasion membron lehislatura. Man-diniñgu ni asuntu siha piot sa’ lamegai ti man-paha gi tinaitai seriosu yan estudia siha na materiat asuntu.

I asuntu siha mas man-komplikau ‘nai fuetsau debi i manma-eduka kolehu na tautau-ta mauleg ta pega deste pa’gu mona pot seriosu na che’chu’ areglu. Yangin pot huntan masge’ pues hagu mismu para un’ sapet maisa hau sa’ lache talu pinegamu halom. Haf’ mohon? Puntu: Ta nesessita manma-eduka kabales na kabayeros gi kuetpon lehislatura. Ti hulat esta hinasson konsihiliun municipalidat!

Ginagau Tiempu

Presisu ta dimanda kualidat na representante gi kuetpon lehislatura. Satbasion tautau-ta gaige na mau’udai gi kualidat tautau ni ta pega gi hegsu I Deni. Debi ta suhaye asuntun makana’ pantie famalao’an giya Garapan yan gayera. Haf’ na in’ i’ipos primera asuntun ekonomia?

‘Nai kahulu’ gaston linala’ 85 pot sientu, guaha sineda’ miyu atte para in’ ribaha minasapet familia siha gi señgsoñg pat kadu’ ti in’ li’e i pinadese pot diskuidun miyu?

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reality check

For the record, the casino law is far from perfect and the idea of having a casino or two on Saipan is probably not everyone’s idea for how our government should generate new revenue, but if you oppose the casino law or casinos in general, how about refraining from extreme and pointless objections and do two things: offer alternative solutions to the casino and when discussing casinos, qualify your arguments with concrete, verifiable data that is relevant to Saipan. We don’t particularly care about what happened in Vegas or Macau or elsewhere. There are conflicts happening in other parts of the world, how do they impact us? How are they relevant to our existence? Catch my drift?

We cannot avoid or ignore the implications of doing nothing to fix our economy now or of subjecting potential investors to mindless bureaucracy meant to drive them away. Given our location, limited natural and human resources, it is indeed a wonder we got not just one but two companies willing to put down their money on Saipan, especially given the harsh conditions of the casino law.

We can sit back, assume the *mañana* attitude and pretend everything is pretty darn good but the fact is our options are limited and there is only one way to fix our problems and that is by doing everything we can now, not next year or sometime in the next 20 years. Now! Negligence and complacency both carry a heavy price.

Now, for the casino. Logic and common sense must prevail on this one. The question is, will it generate revenue to help the CNMI? If the answer is yes, how about allowing both casino applicants the opportunity to open on Saipan? After all, all of the liabilities rest on the shoulders and pockets of the investors. What do we have to lose?

Rep. Ralph Demapan took a chance when he introduced the cas-

no bill and so did Eloy when he signed it into law. Were they wrong? I don’t think so. It takes balls to stand up for the right thing regardless of how socially acceptable it is or how divisive and contentious it is. I wish every public representative were the same. As for the three separate public referendums wherein the majority voted no to casinos, well, you have to understand what a referendum is but then again, the Legislature does have the authority and the power to introduce a casino bill and the governor has the same to sign it into law. They did their job, *comprende*?

If you’re undecided on the issue, examine the facts yourself. How’s your life? What will you offer your kids and their kids? Don’t be misled by dreamers stuck in their perfect world. Want a reality check? Take a drive from Coral Ocean Point to Marpi and count how many buildings are abandoned and empty. Want another one? Check into the problems we have with CHC, CUC and other government agencies, the retirees, the lack of pay raises, the lack of cost of living increases, the impending departure of thousands of workers and their families.

In 1978, we started our Commonwealth with an American dream but that started to unravel when we lost our garment industry, then control of our immigration. Now thousands are unemployed and we’re still politicking and nitpicking. What a shame. What gets me is that in spite of the multitude and complexities of our problems, so many are trying to kill what may our only opportunity for economic recovery. Why?

Noel S. Reyes*Dandan, Saipan*

95 percent true

Jesus Taisague’s letter in the *Saipan Tribune*, June 23, is 95 percent spot on. I love Chamorro culture. It’s the inflexibility of Chamorro traditions that are at the heart of what Mr. Taisague so correctly points out. Its “my family first, last, and only” after “we” (the Tenorios, Camachos, Sablans, Aldans or whatever tribe you belong to) is set up as “king of the hill” do you start including other “tribes,” all Chamorro of course.

I just want to say here that Carolinians, other islanders, Filipinos, haoles, Japanese, Korean, Chinese, Bangladeshis, Indians and other “interlopers” are, at best, considered a nuisance to most Chamorros over 50 for some reason, even though 20 percent or so of you are married to someone in these nuisance groups. The under-25 Chamorros don’t seem to share their elders’ prejudices though and that’s good.

Tradition or no tradition, Article 12 is not necessary in 2014. Go to the courthouse and look at the property transfer records for the last 15 years. The same names keep coming up, sometimes monthly. No one screws a people like their own people. Do you really believe that Chamorros and Carolinians are incapable of handling their own affairs in 2014? That’s sad. So, while I totally agree with you that it was greed, corruption, family jealousies, and the incompetent nincompoops the Chamorros kept electing that let all these opportuni-

ties slip by, I still don’t think Article 12 is necessary, needed, or even wanted by the younger Chamorros in 2014. You obviously grew up during the “shudupboyislapu” age. No backtalk, no discussion, no trying to understand the younger generation; just obey me, boy, end of discussion.

Do you really think a 14-year-old today just loves to go to a novena, christening, baptismal, 1-year-old birthday party or other “event” every night of the week? If you do it’s because the older generation doesn’t know how to talk “to” kids; they only know how to talk at or down to them. It’s 2014 and your grandkids are not like you were. Sorry!

PSS is half the problem, inflexible old people are the other half. Ask a 17-year-old to explain the difference between “culture” and “tradition” and listen to all the answers you get, if they even have one. Your FB page is almost blank but I notice you were at PSS. I friended you and hope you will accept because I have 2014 solutions to the mess at PSS I would like to share with you, and anyone else that is interested.

Gary DuBrall*Chalan Piao, Saipan***OBAMA***From Page 10*

changes the trajectory of Iraq in particular, the Mideast’s regional messes stand to get messier.

Among the realistic possibilities: As Sunnis and Shiites savage one another, Iraq subdivides into tribal states or simply collapses. A U.S. administration that praised postwar Iraq as relatively stable and democratic cannot let that country disintegrate into the sands: Iran and its allied militant groups throughout the region would profit immeasurably, tightening their grip around Israel and discrediting the Great Satan as a feckless and unreliable friend to the Iraqis.

The deployment of a few hundred troops is a half-measure already criticized by those Americans who want a more emphatic U.S. retort to Sunni-dominated extremists and by those Americans who want no further U.S. engagement with that country’s Shiite-dominated government. If our recent history weren’t so freighted, most among us probably would accept a president’s judgment and hope for the best. But, again, this is Iraq.

Even as Obama announced his intentions Thursday, there was a defensive tone in his responses to reporters’ questions. He isn’t sending troops to fight in Iraq—and he isn’t admitting that his disengagement strategy hasn’t worked out as he had planned.

Not that presidents get to conveniently schedule the crises that will confront them.

But with this acceptance of the need for a new military mission in Iraq, however minimal its reach, Obama acknowledges the obvious:






Yes, the United States can disengage whenever and wherever it wishes.

What it cannot then do is dictate whether responsible governance or anarchistic slaughter fills the vacuum.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds 5 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼78°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°	▲89° ▼79°

Micronesia

Guam And Rota	Thundershowers	▲85 ▼80
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲80 ▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼80
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲82 ▼79

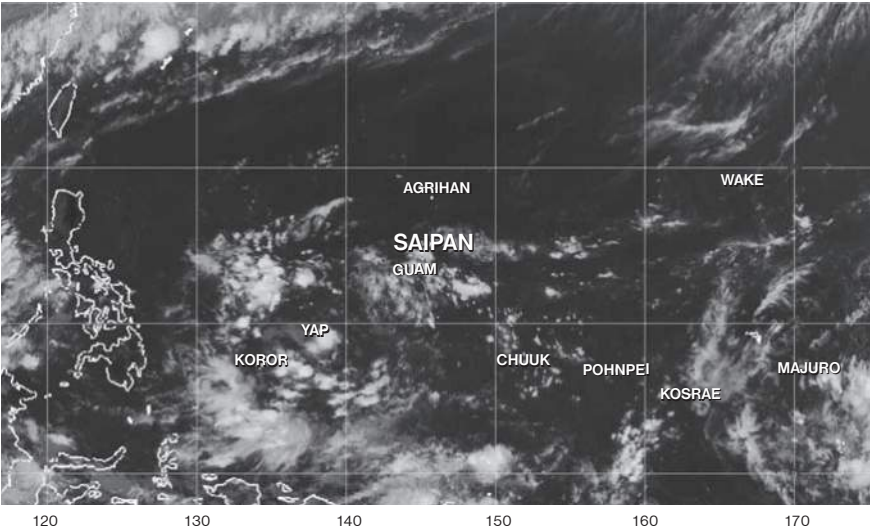
Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲60 ▼58
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲92 ▼70
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	▲84 ▼79
Honolulu	Showers	▲82 ▼73
London	Partly Cloudy	▲70 ▼54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲76 ▼62
Manila	Thunderstorms	▲87 ▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲56 ▼49
Miami	Thundershowers	▲87 ▼77
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲78 ▼64
Osaka	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼65
Paris	Mostly Sunny	▲76 ▼55
Pusan	Mostly Sunny	▲73 ▼66
Rome	Sunny	▲82 ▼68
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲81 ▼56
San Francisco	Sunny	▲65 ▼54
Seoul	Showers	▲80 ▼63
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	▲79 ▼69
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲85 ▼68

Tides

Saipan Harbor			
5:30 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.9 Feet
01:01 PM	Today	Low Tide:	-0.2 Feet
8:00 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, JUNE 23, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A monsoon trough runs eastward from 8N130E through weak circulations centered near 8N132E and 8N138E then curves southeastward to end at EQ157E. Patchy areas of scattered showers and a few thunderstorms across Palau and southeast of Yap are south of a line from 8N130E to 9N140E to EQ153E. Just north of the monsoon trough the surface winds are curving toward the northwest and triggering scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over the Philippine Sea between 10N and 17N from 130E to 140E. A surface trough just southeast of the Mariana Islands is causing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 10N and 15N from 142E to 148E and within 50 miles of a line from 15N147E to 14N152E to 15N157E. A surface trough between Kosrae and Kwajalein is causing scattered showers between 4N and 8N from 163E to 168E. A tropical disturbance centered southeast of Majuro near 3N177E is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms near Tarawa and Butaritari between the equator and 7N from 172E to the date line.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:48 AM	6:50 PM
Wednesday	5:49 AM	6:50 PM
Thursday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Friday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM
Saturday	5:49 AM	6:51 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:07 AM	4:09 PM
Wednesday	3:55 AM	5:01 PM
Thursday	4:44 AM	5:52 PM
Friday	5:33 AM	6:41 PM
Saturday	6:23 AM	7:27 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- **ISLAND SNAPSHOTS**
Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- **BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**
A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- **BUSINESS**
Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- **SAMUT SARI**
Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- **TRAVELOGUE**
Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **COMMUNITY BRIEFS**

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 18, 2014

DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily	UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3	UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7	UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	2:30pm	4:10pm	6, 7 via Rota	UA5039	1:10pm	2:00pm	6, 7
UA5078	3:20pm	4:10pm	1, 5	UA5038	1:10pm	2:50pm	2, 4 via Rota
UA5038	3:20pm	4:10pm	2, 4	UA5077	2:00pm	2:50pm	1, 5
UA5040	7:05pm	7:55pm	1, 5	UA5041	5:45pm	6:35pm	1, 5
UA5078	8:35pm	9:25pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7	UA5077	7:15pm	8:05pm	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA5044	10:50pm	11:40pm	1, 5	UA5043	9:30pm	10:20pm	1, 5
SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)				GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
UA5039	2:30pm	3:05pm	6, 7	UA5038	1:10pm	1:45pm	2, 4
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)				ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN			
UA5039	3:35pm	4:10pm	6, 7	UA5038	2:15pm	2:50pm	2, 4
SAIPAN-PALAU (ROR)				PALAU (ROR)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	11:15pm	2, 6 via NRT	DL298	4:30am	3:00pm	3, 7 via NRT
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL287	6:05am	8:35am	1, 4, 5, 6	DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily	DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)				SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1	OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	1, 3, 5, 7	OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)				SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7	3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)				BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN			
MU764A	3:30am	7:30am	4, 7	MU763A	6:50pm	2:30am+1	3, 6
MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5	MU763	7:20am	3:00am+1	4, 7
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)				GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6	3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN	OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	DL172/288	7:55am	1:25am+1	3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM	UA190/5077	9:55am	8:05pm	3, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5070/183	4:15am	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5070/183	4:15am	9:10pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM	OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
DL287/473	6:05am	9:50pm	1, 4, 5, 6 via NRT	UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM	UA184/5039	10:25pm	2:00pm+1	6 via GUM
UA5039/183	2:30pm	9:10pm	6, 7 via Rota-GUM	UA184/5038	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
UA5038/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	2 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	2:50pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	8:45pm	5 via GUM	UA184/5041	10:25pm	6:35pm+1	4, 7 via GUM-Rota
UA5078/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	1 via GUM	UA184/5077	10:25pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 6 via GUM
UA5038/183	3:20pm	9:10pm	4 via GUM	UA184/5043	10:25pm	10:20pm+1	4, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via GUM
				UA184/5071	11:30pm	8:05am+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5039	11:30pm	2:00pm+1	5 via GUM
				UA184/5077	11:30pm	8:05pm+1	2, 5 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)				HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN	OZ746/603	12:30am	2:20pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM	OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:40am	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM	D28008	6:05pm	1:20am+1	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31
D28009	12:50pm	4:05pm	May 18, 22, 27, June 1, 5, 10, 15, 19, 24, 29, July 3, 8, 13, 17, 22, 27, 31	UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM
UA5039/179	2:30pm	9:55pm	6 via Rota-GUM	UA180/5039	9:55pm	2:00pm+1	5, 6 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:20pm	9:55pm	1, 5 via GUM	UA180/5038	9:55pm	2:50pm+1	1, 3 via GUM-Rota
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	1, 3, 5, 7 via ICN	UA180/5077	9:55pm	8:05pm+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR; D2: Dynamic Air

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Brief history of hospital structure in America vs the CNMI

Editor's Note: Due to its length, the following letter to the editor is being published in three sections.

First of a three-part series

In the 1700's Boston was the largest city in the democracy. Sailors had to be quarantined. Soon these quarantined places were where the mentally ill could be cast aside from society. The small time criminals and homeless beggars soon joined as well as those who were contagious, such as tuberculosis and polio. These early "hospitals" were more like jails. Johns Hopkins Hospital today started as one of these facilities and was known by its former name, The Public Hospital of Baltimore. In New York, one of these early hospitals was known as Bellevue.

It really wasn't until a Catholic order, St. Vincent de Paul Sisters of Charity, founded by Mother Elizabeth Seton in 1809, saw a chance for spiritual salvation of these lost souls. This and other Catholic orders transformed hospitals into what we know today as health centers through their kindness and acts of altruism.

The Civil War saw many soldiers returning home who needed medical care. Thus the nursing profession grew, and hospitals grew, but still, these were places of the sick and needy.

A divided people going nowhere

The CNMI still faces the same basic problem it was facing when I first started writing letters in the 1990s and using the term "*one people, one direction*" as a metaphor for what was and still is clearly needed for the CNMI to have a good government and economic prosperity. It is clear from the letters in the news recently that our politicians are still keeping the people divided and going nowhere fast! A decade and still on casinos and can't even get that right given the problems, the opposition and now the TRO! I bet the governor isn't laughing about the casino lawsuits anymore!

The politics and political players and their plays have gotten so bad that we have four gubernatorial candidates and three are GOP—what a sad political time it is for voters. The GOP is to blame for two new parties with members jumping ship and turning on one another just to keep political control for over a decade and it has gotten the CNMI nowhere! We the people may never be one people doing anything together under these political conditions that clearly divide the people going in four different directions! Our best chance for fixing our very sick democracy is to do all we can to help create a strong two-party system by voting to revive the Democratic Party.

Just think, our politicians have virtually stopped saying anything about uniting the people and taking us anywhere or doing anything new and significant. The governor has successfully divided the people again on the casino issue when he could have just as easily put it on the ballot. But no, he wants to play politics to try and make sure he wins in November with the retirees as his bargaining chips. So voters are divided again with the retirees' families being the critical linchpin vote for the next election as they represent the biggest bloc. I just pray retirees are smart enough to know they are being played like suckers at an old-time sideshow.

We the people are divided on the casino, divided on Article 12, divided on the CW issue, divided on Pagan, divided on almost every major issue that we need to resolve but no one is leading so we remain divided and under the same GOP rule that got us into this mess! The Democrats have proven they will listen in their stance against the casino and if they will only support the people's right to decide on legalizing marijuana—which far better than casinos and will completely fix our economy—they will have a great chance of people voting for all the Democrats just to give us all a break from the GOP and a chance at better government and a prosperous economy.

P.S.: It looks like Marianas Stars is our best and safest bet since the governor is dead set on forcing the casino down our throats. At least the casino will taste better coming from Marianas Stars who has clearly asserted they have the people of the CNMI in the forefront of their decisions. I want to thank Marianas Stars for looking out for the people and promoting a fair selection with the TRO and the two licenses suggestion, which I view as a genuine gesture of integrity with the best interest of the people first and I pray they will get the bid as Stars is obviously more experienced and prepared in the casino industry than Best Sunshine who is really a food giant! It should be common sense that we will do twice as good with two casinos if we must have them. I also pray Marianas Stars will support a "shielding law" requiring individuals to be a guest of the casino to play. Their gesture really shows that Marianas Stars is not trying to be greedy and competition does bread quality, which is to the CNMI's advantage. There is also the fact that the exclusive rights BS is a violation of federal antitrust law as it will constitute a monopoly on Saipan and may very well be tested in court.

Ambrose M. Bennett
Kagman, Saipan

Massachusetts General, New York General, and the Pennsylvania Hospital were formed by physicians in order to have a clean environment to perform surgery and obstetrics and to train medical students. Early administrators were custodian or janitors of the hospitals.

By 1986, 74 percent of the population had health insurance, according to author R. Stevens. Now the insurance companies were covering most of the costs by spreading the premiums over a large population. This led the way to larger hospital administrations to handle the cash and expenses and a medical inflation that persists to even today.

In 1966, Title XVII of the Social Security Administration Act gave rise to Medicare and Medicaid. Within 10 years, this government program saw hospital stays for patients 65 and older to be double that of patients aged 45 to 64, according to one author. The hospitals saw that caring for those 65 and older was profitable. The hospital administrations began to cut services for the non-profitable services. The charitable and spiritual side of hospital care rapidly declined and took a role of lesser importance. You no longer had to whisper in hospitals, yet we still whisper in libraries. Nurses stopped wearing white. Physicians began losing control of the direction of hospital medical care. (Just kidding about the wearing white.)

Broadway comes to Saipan

It's a long, long way from this island to the blazing lights of New York City and the aura that is Broadway! But thanks to Clint Eastwood, he of the spaghetti Westerns and Dirty Harry, Broadway is alive in our local movie theater. Sadly, very few seem to have noticed.

Jersey Boys, a smash hit on Broadway running for some 10 years now, has been made into a wonderful movie by no other than the cowboy/detective, Clint Eastwood. And an admirable job he has done!

This is a true story of four guys who "met under a street lamp" in Belleville, New Jersey, circa 1961, and works its way to The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in the '90s. During the journey, one witnesses loyalty in instances that are shrouded with disloyalty.

It is the story of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Frankie Valli still performs and was by far the talent that carried this group to stardom. That said, the creative genius was a chap by the name of Bob Gaudio, who wrote almost all of the incredible music for the group.

It is a very rocky journey for these guys. Two are hoodlums and two are incredibly talented. And, at one point, as a friend pointed out to me, all four spent some time in jail. That said, Frankie Valli and Bob Gaudio are "special" talents; Tommy Devito and Nick Massey would just as likely hold up a jewelry store as perform on stage...anywhere!

When DeVito exhibits unbelievable disloyalty to the group, it is Frankie Valli's loyalty to him that bails him out. The decision of Gaudio and Valli to create a "side deal" based on a handshake (a Jersey contract), that does not take away from the group but eventually breaks up the group and salvages The Four Seasons.

But it's not the story line that created this long-running hit. It's the music. The more one hears it, the more one wants to hear it. It is

In the '80s, groups of physicians sought to reclaim control of patient medical care and the loss of the doctor-patient relationship and began building small surgical centers. They were more profitable and efficient. Physicians could set the tone for customer service from the top down. This resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for hospitals. In Washington, lobbyists were successful in influencing politicians to pass Medicare reforms that increased reimbursements to hospitals and decrease reimbursements to surgical centers for the same procedures, despite the differences in patient experiences. Enter the dawn of large corporations buying up hospitals for profit.

Hospitals began employing more and more physicians as salaries could be higher than the physician would make outside the hospital due to subsidies provided by the added hospital revenue services such as laboratory, radiology, and hospital bed reimbursement. These physicians were now subject to employment laws and the hospital administrations grew in power over the doctors.

To be continued.

Grant Walker, MD

Board Certified and Spine Fellowship Trained Orthopedic Surgeon
Idaho

electric and melodic, and it is music you have heard before. You just don't realize it until you hear it again!

I've seen the live performance of *Jersey Boys* nine times now! I had to be dragged to it the first time, over six years ago. I went back to see it two additional times on that particular trip to New York City. I have since seen it twice in Vegas with a friend who had never seen it before, and insisted we see it again before leaving. And I saw the opening in Singapore a few years ago. The movie is not the "live" show but it is so entertaining that's it definitely worth the price of a movie ticket.

I have seen the movie twice over the weekend and there were few folks in the theater, hence this review!

Broadway rarely comes to the movie screen and significantly less now than in previous decades. As I recall, the last Broadway show to make it to the movie screen on Saipan was some 10 years ago: *Phantom of the Opera*, which was panned by a local reviewer.

Phantom is still running on Broadway and has toured the world. The movie was outstanding but it enjoyed a very short run here. I fear a similar fate lies in store for *Jersey Boys*. It's not for the children. The language in Jersey in the '60s was a bit rough and vulgar.

But, if you want some real entertainment, if you enjoy melodic music, you will love *Jersey Boys*! If you see it once, you will want to see it again and again.

Thank you, Clint!

Alan Stuart Markoff, DDS, MBA

ToothWorks Dental Clinic

"We are proud to announce that a member of our community – Jerlisa Ann C. Stewart-Arizala, daughter of Jessie A. Arizala and Maria T. Camacho – received her Ph.D. Degree in Biological Sciences from the City of Hope Irell & Manella Graduate School of Biological Sciences, Beckman Research Institute on June 6, 2014. Under the mentorship of Dr. John Rossi, she characterized an understudied nucleolar pathway required for HIV-1 infection using techniques in Molecular and Cellular Biology. She fondly remembers her childhood in Saipan Community School and how she discovered that Biology was her favorite subject in high school at Marianas Baptist Academy. She spent afternoons at the Commonwealth Health Center where her mom works, where she was inspired to study Biology and perform medical research to cure diseases that reduce our quality of life."

Jessie A. Arizala & Maria T. Camacho

"Good teachers and role-models are extremely valuable to the development of a young child's mind. My parents constantly talked about college and my teachers recognized the talents that I was able to polish and practice today. Everyone is talented and skillful. It is a good teacher that will recognize that in our children and inspire them to excel."

Jerlisa Ann C. Stewart-Arizala

Congratulations!

Jerlisa Ann C. Stewart-Arizala



Red Cross assists family of Chalan Kiya house fire

The American Red Cross NMI Chapter provided assistance to a family who were victims of a house fire in Chalan Kiya in the early morning of June 20, 2014. The house was completely destroyed by the fire. Fortunately, no one was seriously hurt.

The Red Cross Disaster Action Team responded to the fire scene and worked closely with the family in providing them with much needed assistance for clothing, food and medication.

"We are extremely grateful for the generosity of our donors and the continued support of our CNMI community. It is directly through this support that we are able to carry out the Red Cross Mission of helping victims of disasters," said Emergency Services director Paul W. Camacho.

For information regarding the Red Cross, contact Camacho at 670-234-3459. (ARC)



A house in Chalan Kiya is completely destroyed by fire in the early morning of June 20, 2014.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Meeting for retirees, others

To all retirees and to all those who withdrew their retirement contributions, there will be an informal meeting on Wednesday, June 25, at 5:30pm at the Minatchom Atdao in Susupe. The purpose of this meeting is to enlighten, share our concerns, and make a determination to protect our interests. For more information, you may contact Joe B. Aldan at 287-1947, Greg Camacho (Kachuma) at 287-2552, or

Clyde Norita at 322-3154. (PR)

Questions about your VA benefits?

All veterans, family members, widows, and community providers are being informed that the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs is having a Veterans Benefit Clinics on Tinian on July 1, 2014, and on Saipan on July 2, 2014.

On Tinian, the clinic will be held at the Tinian Mayor's conference room on July 1,

2014, from 9:30am to 2:30pm. On Saipan, it will be held at the Saipan VA Outreach Clinic located at the Marine Heights Business Park, MHII Building, Suite 206 (second floor), on July 2, 2014, from 8am to 4pm.

Topics will include VA benefits, loan guaranty, education, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and death benefits. For more information, contact Saipan VA Clinic coordinator Ruth Coleman at 322-0035 or 989-8999. (PR)

Saipan business gets boost to expand its environmental consulting business

A Saipan-based environmental consulting business has secured the financing it needs to expand its operation. This financing was made available through the support of the State Small Business Credit Initiative.

The business owner said: "Ours is a HUBZone-certified and SAM-registered small business with 15 years of on-island experience. We intend to expand opportunities within the scope of our firm's eight specialty areas: projects and program management; scientific analyses and reporting; natural and cultural resources planning; program reviews and assessment; grant writing and management; science and environmental education; general technical writing; and general business planning."

"We appreciate the fact that

our business development loan is among the first to be awarded in the CNMI under this relatively new federally-funded program. The package's seven-year repayment period significantly lowers the pressure otherwise required to make monthly loan payments as we work to incrementally grow our small company to meet the business-to-business and business-to-government demand for the services that we provide. This loan provides the opportunity for us to retain key staff, develop and finance a good marketing plan, and eventually add additional subject matter experts allied with our firm. Thank you greatly for your ongoing support."

Commerce Secretary Sixto Igisomar said: "I encourage local entrepreneurs to take this opportunity and make your

business dreams come true. This is an opportunity provided for by the U.S. Treasury in partnership with the CNMI to support small businesses. Call your bank and inquire about this program."

The CNMI through the Department of Commerce was allocated a total of \$13.2 million under the SSBCI program to support two different loan programs. The Commonwealth Development Authority is the implementing agency for the CNMI SSBCI program. For questions regarding program implementation contact Oscar Camacho, Loan Manager with CDA at 234-6245 Ext. 308. The CNMI SSBCI program is fully positioned and ready to support additional commercial loans. For a complete list of requirements contact the Commonwealth Development Authority. (CDA)

Updates on Tinian capital improvement projects



Hofschneider

progress of capital improvement programs for the island of Tinian.

"In order to ensure timely implementation of the projects, we have been meeting regularly with staff of the Office of Capital Improvement and the leadership of Tinian and Agui-guan. I am happy to provide an update on the progress of the Capital Improvement Projects on the island of Tinian," stated Hofschneider. "Implementation of Tinian's capital improvement projects are important because they address the infrastructure needs of the community, and they also provide a stimulus to the local economy in the buying of supplies and the hiring of local labor."

Specifically, the administration provided updates on the following projects:

1. Tinian International Airport improvements:

Portions of the airport have been underutilized due to structural problems and incomplete improvements. A contract for the completion of construction for the new departure terminal and improvements to the existing arrival terminal building will be executed this month. This will include structural repairs, finishing, furniture, and equipment. The bids are currently being reviewed by the project manager and a request has already been made for the confirmation of bids. These repairs will make all elements of the airport fully functional and facilitate the expansion of air service for the

island of Tinian.

2. Tinian Harbor analysis and repairs:

Review of the proposals for the assessment of the finger piers' current condition, and the necessary surveys and field work to determine the viability of the finger piers, is ongoing. Selection and award will occur sometime in June/July 2014. The ATP was issued on June 4, 2014.

3. Tinian Health Center:

Architectural and engineering analysis of the Tinian Health Center has been completed. This analysis examined the current layout of the Health Center and changes that should be made to accommodate long-term needs.

Immediate repairs to the roofing system, ADA compliance in at least one bathroom, and other improvements will be addressed. Its construction is currently ongoing.

4. Tinian Health Center equipment:

There is an ongoing purchase contract to improve health care services on Tinian with an ultrasound unit, a PACs system, and an autoclave that will allow the health center to properly dispose of biohazard waste. The anticipated date of delivery for this equipment is the end of June 2014.

5. New Tinian Landfill:

Moving forward to resolve the longstanding issue of construction of a new landfill, the engineering design of the new landfill is 100 percent complete. This project is only awaiting an approved location, as the designated site in Atgidon, Tinian, is part of the current CJMT EIS.

6. Renovation of existing Tinian dumpsite:

To improve the existing dumpsite until a new landfill is constructed and the current one is closed, the Commonwealth

is restructuring the dumpsite's design and operations. These improvements will make it easier for residents to dispose trash, clean up the site, eliminate fires, and control pests. Engineering design is in progress and awaiting 60 percent submittals.

7. New landfill equipment:

In order for the existing Tinian landfill to comply with EPA requirements, a purchase of a new bulldozer, front end loader, excavator, and dump truck was completed and should be delivered by November 2014. This new equipment will aid in efforts to improve operations and allow Public Works personnel to reshape the existing site to control odors, eliminate litter, and control rodents.

8. Tinian solid waste transfer station:

In order to provide a simpler method of trash disposal, a solid waste transfer station will be constructed across the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power plant. This facility will provide dumpsters for collection of trash, sorting bins for separation of recyclables, and collection areas for green waste and appliances. Engineering design is currently in progress with a 60 percent design submittal expected in July 2014.

9. Tinian 0.5-million gallon reservoir:

The CNMI just secured 2014 funding for the construction of a water reservoir in Marpo Heights, Tinian, and will be working with the Water Task Force to advance the project.

Hofschneider again expressed thanks to the leadership of Tinian and Agui-guan, the staff, and the Capital Improvement Office and its staff for their efforts in this matter. (Office of the Governor)



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation



PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT

This is to inform the general public that the CNMI Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) Program FY 2015 State Plan is available for review and public comment from June 23, 2014 to June 27, 2014 (Monday to Friday). Interested members of the general public may review the FY 2015 State Plan at the WIC Program's Administrative Office located in Saipan, upper Navy Hill, Building N-25. Office hours are from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. All public comments must be submitted in writing to the WIC Program Administrator at the same office no later than July 3, 2014.

/s/Esther L. Muna
Chief Executive Officer

/s/Carmen C. Cabrera
WIC Program Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT AGENCY DIVISION

2014 Summer Youth Employment Training Program Qualifiers

Work Schedule: July 7 - August 1, 2014

2014 SYTEP SAIPAN QUALIFIERS			
NAME	JOB TITLE	COMPANY/AGENCY	ORIENTATION & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
1 ADA, Kaishia Lynn	Clerk Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
2 ADA, Neolani Beatrice	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
3 ADA, Nicholas Andrew	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
4 ADEKENGO, Francis Oniel D.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DLNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
5 AGUILO, Ramon Jose R.	Agriculture Extension Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
6 AGUION, Britana Lynn B.	Cashier Trainee	Ace Hardware San Vicente	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
7 ALARZAR, Sharmaine Rose M.	AC & Refrigeration Sales Rep Trainee	Chong's Corporation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
8 ALDAN, Anthony Joseph P.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Power Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
9 AMANDUS, Tyrol	Animal Health Technician	DLNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
10 AMIN, Erick Joseph M.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
11 ANDY, Myron Jordan	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
12 ANSAY, Faith Rose Y.	File Clerk Trainee	Bank of Saipan	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
13 ANUA, Kenty	Clerk Trainee	CNNI Judiciary-Law Revision Commission	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
14 BABAUTA, Veronnie Ann S.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
15 BABAUTA, Versalli R.	Parole Office Aide Trainee	Board of Parole	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
16 BABAUTA, Vinae Remea S.	Probation Clerk Trainee	CNNI Judiciary-Office of Probation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
17 BASIENTE, Bryan John	Housekeeping Coordinator Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
18 BENAFENTE, J.	Compliance Technician Trainee	DPL-Compliance Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
19 BORJA, Antonio F.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Lower Base)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
20 BORJA, Julicia H.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Financial Accounts & Management Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
21 CABRERA, Alejandro Andres B.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Capital Hotel & Beach Garden	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
22 CABRERA, Sherilyn E.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Lower Base)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
23 CAMACHO, Leana Pilar V.	Clerk Trainee	Council on Developmental Disabilities-At Progam	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
24 CASTRO, Margaret J.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Lower Base)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
25 CEPEDA, John Peter A.	Agriculture Extension Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
26 DELEON GUERRERO, Lee Mark G.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Purchasing & Supply	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
27 DIAZ, David Michael B. II	Office Clerk Trainee	Department of Corrections	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
28 EFCROW, Frederick R.	Stockier Trainee	Ace Hardware Susupe	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
29 ESEFOW, Manny	Stockier Trainee	Ace Hardware San Vicente	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
30 ESNER, Kinisov Tamison C.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
31 ESNER, Krystner C.	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
32 FAISAO, Jonathan Christopher C.	Parole Office Aide Trainee	Board of Parole	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
33 FEJERAN, Donnie Vince S.	Supply Technician Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply Contract Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
34 FEJERAN, Jayjay Benizmo S.	Engineering Trainee	Aqua Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
35 FRITZ, Ashley Norma H.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
36 GAROF, Bosco D.	Scale House Attendant Trainee	DPW-Solid Waste Management Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
37 NELSON, Beth D.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPW-Administrative Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
38 ILO, Leticiaac Mingo	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
39 INOS, David C.	HR Clerk Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
40 ISKAWA, Gresslyn L.	Office Clerk Trainee	DOL-Enforcement Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
41 JAIMATOON, Manny P.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Passport Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
42 KAIPIAT, Aloisia BettyMarie	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (CK Post)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
43 KAIPIAT, Carmenlita Lupe	Receptionist Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
44 KAIPIAT, Christine Mary W.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Office of the Secretary	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
45 KAIPIAT, Paul Joe W.	Clerk Trainee	Council on Developmental Disabilities-At Progam	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
46 KEREMEN, Angela H.	Outreach Assistant Trainee	Commonwealth Cancer Association	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
47 KEREMEN, Mieke Rekonin H.	Environmental Trainee	RECQ-Safe Drinking Water Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
48 LANGUI, Richiko N.	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
49 LEON GUERRERO, Nathan Drew H.	Agriculture Extension Trainee	DLNR-Division of Agriculture	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
50 LIMES, Scottie L.	Cultural Program Trainee	Carolinian Affairs Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
51 LIZAMA, Duanealyn Loraine D.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Accounting Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
52 LIZAMA, Trine Luisa A.	Receptionist Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
53 MALTU, Shavina Lynn	Supply Technician Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply Property Management Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
54 MARAS, Russko BJ E.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPS-Technical Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
55 MARTIN, Garnet C.	Receptionist Trainee	DOF-Finance & Accounting Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
56 MENCHOR, Macklene M.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Celpnos Enterprises	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
57 MENDIOIA, Chelsey Lynn J.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Passport Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
58 METTAO, Jessmin O.	Summer Youth Camp Trainee	Garapan Community Development Center	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
59 METTAO, Jim Gary O.	Clerk Trainee	Carolinian Affairs Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
60 MORI, Tahiria Jei N.	Accounting Clerk Assistant Trainee	CNNI Judiciary-Accounting Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
61 MUNGWATH, Rachelle S. L.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
62 NGIRACHELONG, Delsita Ilor	Office Clerk Trainee	Board of Parole	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
63 NIMWES, Mary Gin	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Power Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
64 NIRO, Deiny	Clerk Trainee	DPL-Compliance Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
65 NOBLE, Maria Angelica T.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPW-Administrative Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
66 NORITA, Altron N.	Animal Health Technician	DLNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
67 NORITA, Bud Jason N.	Probation Clerk Trainee	CNNI Judiciary-Office of Probation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
68 OMAR, Damian Jessy	Supply Technician Trainee	DOF-Division of Procurement & Supply Warehouse Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
69 ONCLUNGE, Cherry Jean K.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPL-Real Estate Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
70 ONOFYU, Brandy M.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPL-Real Estate Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
71 PAGADUAN, Jasmin S.	File Clerk Trainee	Bank of Saipan	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
72 PAGADUAN, Oteza S.	Office Clerk Trainee	Department of Corrections	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
73 PALACIOS, Stacy Nicole L.	Probation Clerk Trainee	CNNI Judiciary-Office of Probation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
74 PANGELINAN, Junnie Triane T.	Clerk Trainee	DPL-Administration Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
75 PANGELINAN, Lordinia Gineanne H.	Clerk Trainee	DPH-Medicaid	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
76 PAULUS, Jerilyn T.	Office Clerk Trainee	Capital Hotel & Beach Garden	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
77 PEREDO, Crystal Maelyn DLG.	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Ports Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
78 PETER, F. Fred D.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
79 PETER, Fremy	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Engineering Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
80 PETER, Marny	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Financial Accounts & Management Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
81 PUA, Alvin James L. II	Community Development Trainee	Carolinian Affairs Office	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
82 REBUENGO, Lance Bernard H.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
83 RIOS, Estelana A.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Warehouse Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
84 SABIAN, Victoria Tinag D.	Computer Operator/Data Entry Trainee	DOF-Division of Electronic Data Processing	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
85 SACHUO, Marlin E.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Celpnos Enterprises	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
86 SANCHEZ, Rodalaine Carmen	Front Desk Clerk	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
87 SEKOL, Jerica Jessica P.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	DOF-Office of the Secretary	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
88 SEMENS, Kavika D.	Office Clerk Trainee	DCCA-NAP	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
89 SIECH, Kasper	Animal Health Technician	DLNR-Division of Animal Health Industry	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
90 SIECH, Narleen	Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Development Authority	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
91 SINOUNOU, Francisco J.	Motor Rewinding Trainee	Armatach Corporation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
92 SUDA, Scottson K.	Pro-Shop Attendant Trainee	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
93 TABILISMA, Ashley T.	Clerk Trainee	Council on Developmental Disabilities	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
94 TAITANO, Wilma Jean J.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
95 TAMAN, Derek S.	Environmental Trainee	RECQ-Safe Drinking Water Branch	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
96 TAMAN, Joseph L.	Office Clerk Trainee	Commonwealth Cancer Association	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
97 TAULE, Christian William O.	Accounting Clerk Trainee	Fiesta Resort & Spa	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
98 TERNORIO, Kyle Steve Asalmal P.	Customs Trainee	DOF-Division of Customs Service (Airport)	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
99 THWESMAN, Brandon Kyle K.	Office Clerk Trainee	DPW-Technical Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
100 TOMI, Rodolfo O.	CAD Inspector Trainee	Henn K. Pangelinan & Associates, Inc.	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
101 VILLAGOMEZ, Alpha Jeanan E.	Pro-Shop Attendant Trainee	Coral Ocean Point Resort Club	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
102 WABOL, John Rose M.	Office Clerk Trainee	CUC-Payroll Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
103 WEILBACHER, Hilder Bryan	AC & Refrigeration Technician Trainee	Chong's Corporation	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
104 WEITA, Jenny Loraine W.	Office Clerk Trainee	DOL-OSHA	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
105 WEITA, William W. Jr.	Office Clerk Trainee	DOL-Employment Services Division	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
106 AISEK, Jonder M.	Ice Plant Helper Trainee	JG Sablan Water & Ice, Inc.	Tuesday, July 1, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
107 ALARZAR, John Ralph M.	Accounting Clerk Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-TII Office	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
108 ALDAN, John Vincent P.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
109 ATALIG, Taine	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Academic Programs & Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
110 ATAN, Aterson B.	Data Entry Clerk Trainee	Medical Referral Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
111 ATAN, Atan B.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
112 BABAUTA, Crystal Kay B.	Guest Service Officer	Hyatt Regency Resort-Club Elan	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
113 BABAUTA, Davie B.	Cashier Trainee	JG Sablan Water & Ice, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
114 BABAUTA, Giamia S.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
115 BABAUTA, Jacob R.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor-SA for Legislative Review (SAPLR)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
116 BABAUTA, Juana B.	HR Intern Trainee	Hyatt Regency Resort-HR	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
117 BALBIN, Neysaveria Finalough P.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
118 BALBIN, Nikolaj Jay P.	Office Clerk Trainee	Saipan Higher Education, Financial Assistance (SHEFA)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
119 BAYOT, Edryan Morthy G.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
120 BILLY, Billy John A.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
121 BONONAN, Jaime Vaseym O.	Office Clerk Trainee	PSS-Human Resource Office	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
122 BORJA, Britney Ann C.	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Administrative Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
123 BORJA, Edmond H.	Media Services Aide Trainee	NMC-Media Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
124 BORJA, Ignacio Jose H.	Gym Trainee	NMC-Sciences, Mathematics, Health & Athletics	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
125 BUEKIS, Florens Natfaman C. II	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
126 BUNUSEK, Jang J.	Office Clerk Trainee	PSS-Administrative Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
127 CABRERA, Brandon Joe E.	Terminal Documentation Clerk Trainee	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
128 CABRERA, Dorcy Ann C.	Kiosk Help Agent Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
129 CAMACHO, Devannine Nicole O.	Cashier Trainee	Mariana Resort & Spa	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
130 CAMACHO, Isabel Rosa R.	Front Desk/Bell Hop Trainee	Saipan World Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
131 CAMACHO, Joshua Michael Jr. A.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Office of Senator Ray N. Yumul	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
132 CAMACHO, Kevin Marie R.	Customer Merchandiser Trainee	Marianas Pacific Distributors (MARPAIC)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
133 CAMACHO, Kiana R.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
134 CARDINIO, Jaesohn B.	IT Trainee	NMC-Computer Lab	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
135 CARDINIO, Marineth Joy R.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Liberal Arts Department	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
136 CELIS, Natasha Daanaa	Research Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
137 CHENOR, Samantha E.	Administrative Clerk	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
138 CHIPWELONG, Tanya	Receptionist Trainee	Office of Vocational Rehabilitation	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
139 DELA CRUZ, Fran Abigail T.	Office Clerk Trainee	PSS-Office of Instructional Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
140 DELOS SANTOS, Elizabeth M.	Office Clerk Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
141 DIONISIO, JulieAnn Marie	Office Clerk Trainee	Saipan Higher Education, Financial Assistance (SHEFA)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
142 DIONISIO, Keoloni Kirstine	Office Clerk Trainee	McDonald's	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center

NAME	JOB TITLE	COMPANY/AGENCY	ORIENTATION & WORKSHOP SCHEDULE
143 DIONISIO, Lucio Agino Jr.	Sales Merchandiser Trainee	Transpacific International, Inc-Coca Cola	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
144 EFRAIN, Hector Junior C.	Office Clerk Trainee	Homeland Security & Emergency Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
145 ENCABO, Honorio R. II	Sales Clerk Trainee	Joeten Department Store (Susupe)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
146 FERNANDEZ, Marjane F.	HR Clerk Trainee	Saipan World Resort	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
147 FERNANDEZ, Mervy Ann F.	Childcare Worker Trainee	Holy Angel Child Day & Night Care Learning Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
148 FITAL, Florence L.	Office Clerk Trainee	Law Office of Robert T. Torres	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
149 GEORGE, Nimes S.	Office Clerk Trainee	Office of the Governor-SA for Legislative Review (SAPLR)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
150 GEORGE, Zepher H.	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Member Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
151 GRANADO, John Joshua A.	Sales Clerk Trainee	Joeten Kagma	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
152 NELSON, Melvin D.	Research Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
153 IGISMAR, Leony Jane	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Member Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
154 ISKAWA, Redechor Jr. T.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Academic Programs & Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
155 JHIN, Chomyona R.	Childcare Worker Trainee	Smartstart Nurturing Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
156 JOHNNY, Jay Junior K.	Jewelry Appraiser Trainee	Villacoyal Pawnshop	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
157 JONES, Janet L.	Office Clerk Trainee	Saipan Higher Education, Financial Assistance (SHEFA)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
158 JONES, Jesslyn L.	Personnel Trainee	Office of Personnel Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
159 KAIPIAT, Mariano Jayson W.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-School of Education	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
160 KAIPIAT, Paulsen-Malona W.	Office Clerk Trainee	Homeland Security & Emergency Management	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
161 LANYO, Jimmy Tito Jr. M.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
162 LIMES, Sammy Lee L.	Guest Service Officer	Hyatt Regency Resort-Bell Desk	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
163 LIZAMA, Agnes Carmen C.	Clerk Trainee	NMRF-Administrative Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
164 LIZAMA, Bryanna Marie B.	Data Entry Clerk Trainee	Medical Referral Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
165 LIZAMA, Jack David D.	Stockier Trainee	Joeten Market (Susupe)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
166 MAGSENA, Rickie Ann K.	Customer Service Representative Trainee	Saipan Shopping Co., Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
167 MARAS, Keyron F.	Marketing Clerk Trainee	Marianas Visitors Authority	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
168 MENCHOR, Mackson M.	Guest Service Officer	Hyatt Regency Resort-Communication Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
169 MORI, Taischa Julie N.	Childcare Worker Trainee	Holy Angel Child Day & Night Care Learning Center	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
170 MUNGWATH, Rachelle L.	Arrival Agent Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
171 MARTIN, Naphine M.	Office Clerk Trainee	NMC-Business Department	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
172 NOBLE, Maria Abigail T.	Office Clerk Trainee	Law Office of Robert T. Torres	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
173 NORECH, Agatha Christine W.	Administrative Aide Trainee	NMC-Information Technology Director's Office	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
174 NORECH, Kaystone KN	Information Services Aide	NMC-Information Services	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
175 NORITA, Dennis N.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
176 NORITA, Rose Marie N.	Administrative Assistant Trainee	Pinnacle Staffing	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
177 OLUPOMAR, Rufina Fidelia F.	Operations Documentation Clerk	Saipan Stevedore Company, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
178 OSCAR, Nancy A.	Sales Clerk Trainee	Lavi Duty Free	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
179 OSTONAL, Edmar Joseph F.	Lobby Host Trainee	Pacific Airport Services (PAS)	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
180 PALACIOS, Dustin Jesse M.	IT Trainee	NMC-Computer Lab	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
181 PALACIOS, Shannon Marie L.	Librarian Aide Trainee	Joeten Kivu Public Library	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
182 PANGELINAN, Elysha Jaylen C.	Front Desk Clerk Trainee	Mariana Resort & Spa	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center
183 PANGELINAN, Nathaniel Anthony	Delivery Helper Trainee	JG Sablan Water & Ice, Inc.	Thursday, July 3, 2014 8am-4pm Multi-Purpose Center</

DPL settles long-time utility arrears; \$327K paid to CUC

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Alan W. Fletcher disclosed yesterday that the Department of Public Lands has agreed to settle its long-time arrears with the utilities company.

A check worth \$327,429.47

was turned over last week to CUC officials, representing the land agency's unpaid obligation for eight years covering the period of August 2005 through September 2012.

DPL records disclosed that the payment represents arrears for power amounting to \$322,961.65 and for water, \$4,467.82.

Saipan Tribune learned

that DPL originally owed \$361,065.92 covering eight years. However, after a reconciliation of records, the debt was finalized at \$327,429.47—a reduction of \$33,636.45.

Public Lands Secretary Pedro Tenorio disclosed to CUC board chair David J. Sablan in a June 17 letter that payment was made to CUC in acknowledging the

"findings" of a legal memorandum issued in 2005 by the Office of the Attorney General.

Saipan Tribune learned that in the days of the Marianas Public Lands Authority, an "Agreement for Designation of Use of Public Domain Lands" was entered into by CUC and MPLA, which involved the conveyance of a parcel of public land for CUC's use.

According to Tenorio, in return for this conveyance, CUC agreed to essentially waive all utility charges to DPL. A subsequent legal memorandum disputed this arrangement, describing it as inappropriate.

"My predecessors resisted paying CUC citing the memorandum as valid. I disagreed, based on my review of the legal memorandum

prepared by assistant attorney general Alan J. Barak, dated Dec. 15, 2005. Thus, I have made the decision to implement the findings of that legal memorandum," Tenorio said.

As a result of the analysis by both DPL and CUC accountants, DPL decided to pay the arrears in full without late payment fees.

US govt asks for Quitugua's continued detention

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_deltorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. Attorney's Office has moved for the detention of Daniel M. Quitugua pending his trial.

Quitugua has been indicted over the alleged illegal guns and ammunitions he left behind when he ran away from police officers who stopped him for a traffic violation.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Garth R. Backe stated that this case is eligible for a detention hearing

because it involves a felony involving possession or use of a firearm or destructive device.

Backe said the court should detain Quitugua because "there exists no condition, or combination of conditions, of release that will reasonably assure the safety of any other person and the community."

The indictment charged Quitugua with one count of felon in possession of firearm.

According to the indictment, Quitugua was found in possession of several guns and bullets

on May 23, 2014. Specifically, he is accused of possessing a Sig Sauer model P226 9mm pistol; one Smith & Wesson .38 caliber revolver; 90 rounds of .45 caliber ammunition; 50 rounds of .38 caliber ammunition; and 62 rounds of 9mm ammunition.

Quitugua was convicted in federal court in 2005 for armed robbery of a poker arcade in 2004. He was slapped with a 120-month prison term followed by a five-year supervised release. Quitugua's su-

pervised release began on Jan. 14, 2013.

At a recent preliminary hearing in Superior Court, Associate Judge Joseph Camacho found probable cause to charge Quitugua with resisting arrest and ordered him to answer that count.

The Office of the Attorney General did not charge Quitugua with illegal possession of firearms and ammunitions.

Police arrested Quitugua for allegedly speeding and escaping from police officers, leaving behind a bag that contained three

illegal guns and bullets near the Northern Marianas College on May 23, 2014.

Following his arrest, the U.S. Probation Office sought to have his probation revoked.

U.S. probation officer Gregory F. Arriola said that Quitugua admitted that he had used "ice" on May 14, 2014, and on March 5, April 28, May 20, and June 7, all in 2013.

Quitugua is being detained at the Department of Corrections because of pending charges in local court.

ADVERTISING FEATURE

Wood-fired oven at La Trattoria N1

Exquisite food, relaxing ambiance, and attentive service. La Trattoria N1 has it all, but owner Vlad Melnik doesn't stop there. After a long and laborious planning, La Trattoria is now the sole bona fide Italian restaurant on Saipan to acquire its very own wood-fired oven to capture that elusive, authentic Italian taste.

According to Melnik, "adding the wood-fired oven helps complete the restaurant's concept and it just fits." He himself will be training his staff to use the wood-fired oven by sharing the knowledge he has acquired throughout the years of traveling,

reading, and owning various restaurants.

The newly acquired oven is medium sized, with the capacity to bake two pizzas at once. Unlike the gas burner oven, the wood-

fired oven takes slightly longer to pre-heat due to its traditional methods, but aside from the time, the rest of the process is strikingly similar.

Melnik said the difference between the wood-fired oven and the gas burner oven is similar to cooking steak on an open wood fire rather than an electric grill. "It takes longer to bake with the wood-fired

oven, but it makes all the difference in the taste and scent."

Beginning this week, La Trattoria will begin serving their house pizzas during dinner hours cooked the way it used to be for centuries.

With the arrival of the oven, the pizza menu option is also expected to widen. "We are currently looking into adding more pizza menus, aside from what we already have now, in order to cater to all types of customers."

New improvements like this only prove that La Trattoria N1 is not about shortcuts—it is all about giving attention to details and serving only the best.



"We are about high quality ingredients...with love," Melnik said.

Since Feb. 11, 2014, the rustic Italiano inspired restaurant continues to be a true gem of Saipan.

Located across the Commonwealth Health Center in Gara-

pan, be one of the lucky guests to try their very own wood-fired oven pizzas.

La Trattoria is open from 11am to 2pm and 5:30pm to 10pm. For reservation, please call (670) 233-7600. (*Hanaivy Babauta*)

Best Sunshine exec meets with CHCC, Labor

By **JAYSON CAMACHO**
jayson_camacho@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A Best Sunshine Ltd. executive met with the local Department of Labor and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. last week and discussed matters and issues on Saipan and what they can do to help the local community.

According to a statement released to *Saipan Tribune*, Best Sunshine chief operating officer Terence Tay met with CHCC director of Medical Affairs Dr. Sherleen Osman to discuss hospital issues.

According to Tay, he told Osman that his parents built a

hospital in Singapore, which remains the only free care facility in the city state.

Osman told Tay that the CNMI's most pressing health concerns are childhood obesity, oral cancer from betel nut chewing and tobacco use, diabetes, and hypertension.

Osman, who is also the hospital's medical director for the renal section, told Tay that some of the patients lack transportation to get to the hospital and that CHCC needs diabetic educators and more outreach to the community to prevent blindness and limb loss resulting from diabetes.

Best Sunshine's meeting with Labor Secretary Edith Deleon Guerrero centered on the availability of manpower.

According to Tay, there is no concrete plan yet but a discussion was made on labor requirements down the road and a way to plan for local workers to be available.

"Our main focus is to look toward the CNMI for meeting the manpower requirements. We will like to have the local people here trained and ready. We have to fill those jobs and make sure the locals are recruited," Tay said.

Deleon Guerrero told Best

Sunshine that it is good to hear they have a "sincere desire" to recruit the CNMI's local workforce by ensuring compliance with the CNMI's employment laws. That includes posting job vacancies in the state job bank, allowing the CNMI's work-seeking population to apply for jobs they are qualified for.

Grace Fu of Best Sunshine also took note of their partnership with the Northern Marianas College to conduct a survey that will enable Best Sunshine to know what people want.

Deleon Guerrero cited the importance of striking a balance. That's where Labor's

concept called E3 comes into play—education, economic development, and employment. She also mentioned how Labor continues to work on changing the mindset of the local workforce by encouraging them to look for employment opportunities in the private sector.

Tay told Deleon Guerrero that they do believe in the balance between the government, industry, and people that needs to be reached in order for any society to thrive.

Tay promised that Best Sunshine will work with Labor regarding manpower requirements if they are fortunate to win the license to develop an integrated casino resort on Saipan.

'Mayor's Office not accepting marriage fees'

The Saipan Mayor's Office has put up a notice to all marriage applicants that payments are being accepted at the Division of Treasury at the Guma Hustisia in Susupe.

According to Saipan Mayor Marian Tudela, the notice is to

inform all those who want to secure a marriage license.

Tudela told *Saipan Tribune* that her office doesn't receive payments.

"We do not accept any payments for I.D and marriage here at Mayor's Office. Please remit

your payments at any treasury cashier," the notice reads.

The sign is posted in two places at the Mayor's Office—at the entrance into the I.D. section and the marriage ceremonies section.

Tudela said she wants those

who have paid at the Mayor's Office to come forward and consult with the mayor's special adviser, Henry Hofschneider, or herself.

According to Hofschneider, there is a public law that provides for an application of \$50

for marriage fees that comes with a \$10 fee for filing and \$10 for a certified copy. The filing fee is for the Commonwealth Recorder's Office.

According to Tudela, her office needs all applicants to be responsible for their payments and must be made prior to the notice that had been placed. (*Jayson Camacho*)

Humanities Council's Q3 grant deadline on Monday

The third quarter grant deadline for the Northern Marianas Humanities Council's Community Grants Program is this Monday, June 30, at 5pm.

The council meets for regular sessions in January, April, July, and October each year and during each meeting, pending applications for community grants are looked at and decisions are made whether to fund or not fund particular applications.

The council awards competitive matching grants to any non-profit organization, institution, group, or ad hoc committee and the council supports a wide range of humanities projects consistent with the goals and objectives of its Strategic Master Plan.

The Strategic Master Plan covers a five-year period from 2011 to 2015 and tackles current and long-range needs and challenges confronting the council. It aims to define the council's principal goals and objectives, which is establishing priorities for programs and activities, allowing the council to carry out its program and activities in an efficient and organized fashion.

Grant applications may be delivered to the council office at Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai or emailed to northernmari-anashumanities@gmail.com.

Grant applications will not be considered officially received until they have been certified complete by staff.

Applications submitted after the deadline will be considered during the next review cycle.

The council's purpose is to promote understanding and appreciation of the humanities in the Northern Marianas Islands. Making use of funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the council awards grants for projects focusing on the investigation and analysis of aspects of human culture and experience.

For more information about the council's grant program, visit their website at www.northernmari-anashumanities.org or call 235-4785. (*Jayson Camacho*)

Business

Billions at risk as West Coast port contract ends

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The West Coast ports that are America's gateway for hundreds of billions of dollars of trade with Asia and beyond are no stranger to labor unrest and even violence.

Now, the contract that covers nearly 20,000 dockworkers is set to expire, and businesses that trade in everything from apples to iPhones are worried about disruptions just as the crush of cargo for the back-to-school and holiday seasons begins.

With contentious issues including benefits and job security on the table, smooth sailing is no guarantee.

On one side is the International Longshore and Ware-

house Union, with its tradition of fierce activism dating to the Great Depression, when two of its members were killed during a strike. On the other is the Pacific Maritime Association, which represents shipping lines and operators of terminals at 29 West Coast ports.

Both acknowledge that they are unlikely to agree on a new contract before the current one expires June 30, but they plan to negotiate past that deadline. That would fit the pattern from contract talks in 2008 and 2002. In 2002, negotiators didn't reach an agreement until around Thanksgiving, following an impasse that led

to a 10-day lockout and a big disruption in trade.

The union's total control over the labor pool means huge bargaining leverage, which negotiators have parlayed into white-collar wages and perks for blue-collar work. A full-time longshoreman earns about \$130,000 a year, while foremen earn about \$210,000, according to employer data. Workers pay nearly nothing for health coverage that includes no premiums and \$1 prescriptions.

Neither side has publicly discussed progress on negotiations that began May 12 in San Francisco, which is headquarters to the union and the mari-

time association.

Twelve years ago, the shutdown had a lasting impact on how products moved in and out of the United States. Hauling cranes idled. Ships anchored in San Francisco Bay and outside ports from Los Angeles to Seattle. Economists estimated the impact at \$1 billion each day.

Even after trade resumed, retailers—with their just-in-time supply chain—worried that West Coast ports risked becoming a bottleneck. Companies looked to Gulf Coast and East Coast ports, which courted them by upgrading facilities.

"They can't afford to have their goods hung up either out

on the sea or on the docks," said Jonathan Gold, vice president of supply chain and customs policy at the National Retail Federation.

Between 2002 and last year, the portion of shipping containers that came into the U.S. through West Coast ports dropped from 50 percent to 44 percent, according to a study by Martin Associates, a firm that analyzes transportation systems. Imports to the Gulf of Mexico and the Northeast increased.

Even so, West Coast ports handled cargo worth \$892 billion in 2013 alone, according to trade data compiled by the U.S. Census Bureau.

Worries over the current negotiations have prompted some stores to route shipments away from the West Coast, Gold said. Other importers planning for fall and winter shopping have shipped early to beat the contract's expiration date.

The maritime association warns that labor peace is essential to keeping West Coast

ports competitive, especially with an expansion of the Panama Canal that will allow larger vessels to reach East Coast markets directly.

The union is not persuaded, at least not publicly.

"The competitiveness argument is an old saw that gets trotted out every time there's a negotiation," said union spokesman Craig Merrilees. "The claim has generally been used in an effort to extract concessions from the union members."

One area where the Pacific Maritime Association is looking for concessions is benefits. According to the PMA, the cost of benefits more than doubled over the past decade, reaching \$93,200 per registered worker in fiscal year 2013.

During these negotiations, a new incentive is in play: In 2018, a 40 percent tax on the value of "Cadillac" health plans above a certain threshold kicks in under the Affordable Care Act—and the union's coverage qualifies.

Turn to boss for help with disgruntled underling

QUESTION: When I joined this company a few weeks ago, I discovered that the person who previously held my position is now working for me. "Sarah" obviously resents my presence and frequently says I don't have the authority to manage her, even though I clearly do. Her negativity has made my job much more difficult.

When Sarah was in charge of this group, she coddled the staff and ignored performance issues. One employee who has not met his goals frequently complains that I'm being too hard on him. I am actually trying to help him succeed, but Sarah undermines my efforts by sympathizing with him. How can I get this situation under control?

ANSWER: Sarah is undoubtedly suffering from a bruised ego, but that's no excuse for her rebellious attitude. Regardless of how she feels about her demotion, she still needs to behave in a mature, professional manner. Getting that message across, however, will probably require some assistance.

Because Sarah refuses to acknowledge your authority, anything you tell her will automatically be disregarded. She is more likely to pay attention to someone higher up, so try asking your boss for help.

For example: "Sarah seems to resent the fact that I am now her supervisor. She repeatedly says I have no authority over her, and she tries to undermine my relationship with other employees. I understand her feelings, but her behavior is creating problems. If the three of us could meet to clarify expectations, I think that would help."

Remember that your boss's role in this scenario is simply to establish ground rules. Once those are in place, you must rely on your own managerial skills

to keep Sarah in line.

Q: I am trying to decide whether I should leave my new job. Several months ago, I achieved my goal of becoming a certified public accountant. After a rigorous interview process, I was hired by a small private company. This position appealed to me because it reported directly to the CEO.

Unfortunately, I am now beginning to feel more like a secretary than an accountant. Most of my assignments are administrative in nature and have nothing to do with accounting. I like the CEO, but he doesn't seem to appreciate my professional skills. Should I leave or wait to see if things improve?

A: Something clearly went

YOUR OFFICE COACH

By **MARIE G. MCINTYRE**
McClatchy-Tribune News Service

Marie G. McIntyre is a workplace coach and the author of *Secrets to Winning at Office Politics*. Send in questions and get free coaching tips at <http://www.yourofficecoach.com>, or follow her on Twitter @officecoach.



awry during your "rigorous interview process." Maybe you neglected to clarify job responsibilities, or perhaps someone provided misleading information. But either way, you must now do a quick reassessment of your career prospects.

Since the CEO controls your fate with this company, you need to determine how he views your role. If he has never before

worked with a professional accountant, he may actually have no clue about what you have to offer. Some basic education about the accounting function might solve that problem.

But if your boss was really looking for an administrative assistant, then he has obviously made a huge hiring error. In that case, it's time to cut your losses and find an employer who understands your value.

Aaron and Elma Pangelinan Yobech
P.O. Box 10002 PMB 2712
Saipan, MP 96950-8902
Telephone No.: (670) 286-3328/285-6871

Pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The) FCD-AD
Adoption Of:) CIVIL ACTION
) NO. 14-0239

L. B. P. Y. (9/23/2011),)
Minor Child)

By:)
)
) **NOTICE OF HEARING**

Aaron and Elma)
Pangelinan Yobech)
Petitioner(s))

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 7th, 2014 at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before the Honorable Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 29th day of May 2014.

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court
/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF) FCD GU
APPOINTMENT OF A) Civil Action
GENERAL GUARDIAN) No. 14-0265
AND CUSTODIAN FOR)
IZEAH JUNIOR)
TAITANO GABRIEL and)
GANON SECHAF) NOTICE OF
TAITANO GABRIEL,) HEARING
Minor Children.)
By:)
QUEENA TAITANO XIONG)
Petitioner.)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Petitioner, Queena Taitano Xiong, has petitioned the above Court to appoint her as the general legal guardian and custodian of the minor children.

The hearing on this petition has been set before the Superior Court, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the 24th day of July, 2014 at 10:30 a.m. or as soon thereafter as the matter can be heard.

Any person who has objection to the petition may file his or her objection with the Superior Court at any time before the hearing, or may appear at the time set for hearing to present such objection or interest in the above-captioned matter.

Dated this 16 day of June, 2014.

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court
Superior Court

Oceanworks Inc.

P.O. Box 10000 PMB 571 Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 286-0450

Job Vacancy Announcement

1 – Master Auto Mechanic – Engine Specialist

Qualification Requirements: At least twenty years of experience performing subcomponent-level automotive repair with a focus on modern Japanese engines in passenger vehicles and commercial vehicles and equipment, Conversant with all models of modern Japanese engines, common failure points, and accepted diagnostics methods. Adept at using OBD-2 and other diagnostic tools. Excellent machining and welding skills. Need at least five years' experience in customer service, estimating, record-keeping, and parts and materials procurement. Must be proficient in English at a level sufficient to communicate with customers. Prefer additional basic Mandarin Chinese language skills to communicate with shop's predominantly Chinese-speaking commercial truck clientele.

Applicants will be given written and practical tests of automotive knowledge and computer proficiency. Email your resume to info@saipanfix.com

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following position:

Accountant

Preferably a college graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting with at least 3 years work-related experience in Property and Casualty Insurance, handling cashing, disbursements, receivables, payables, purchasing and general accounting procedures. Knowledge in SAP R3 FICO system, General Insurance Information System, MS Word and Excel software is an advantage. Must be able to work under time pressure and flexible hours.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at Century Insurance Company Ltd. Human Resources Office located on the 2nd Floor, JP Center Building at Beach Road, Garapan. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Monday, July 07, 2014.

Century Insurance Company Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Saipan Shrimp & Broodstock Co., Ltd. Is inviting qualified individuals to apply for the following positions:

FOR PART TIME EMPLOYMENT SENIOR AQUACULTURE TECHNICIAN

Job Description: To develop, implement and update technical procedures for the hatchery and grow-out of pacific white shrimp; To transfer technology to key personnel for implementation; Establish, maintain and update a standard operating procedure for the hatchery and grow-out of pacific white shrimp; Analyze production data and make necessary technical adjustments to improve production results; Evaluate raw materials and supplies to ensure quality; Design and renovation of existing facility and planning for future expansions; Problem-solving and addressing customers' technical needs and concerns.

Job Requirements: Bachelor of Science degree in aquaculture, marine biology, biotechnology or other related field. A Masters Degree or PHD in the fields mentioned an advantage. At least 10 years experience in aquaculture technical management. At least 5 years experience in actual grow-out and hatchery of pacific white shrimp. With considerable experience in the design and lay-out of intensive shrimp farm. Good presentation skills and knowledgeable on power point application.

FOR PART TIME EMPLOYMENT (2) JUNIOR AQUACULTURE TECHNICIAN

Job Description: Responsible in actual implementation of technical programs for the operation; Come up with standard operating procedures detailing the technical standards of the operations and keep the said operating procedures updated when needed; Monitor daily implementation of protocols and standards; Gather culture information and data and use these as reference for technical adjustments for the operation; Report to the Senior Aquaculture Technician schedules of implementation, progress of projects and all technical matters concerning the operation; Make recommendations to change, stop or continue using any farm inputs and technical procedures according to actual observations.

Job Requirements: Bachelor of Science degree in aquaculture, marine biology, biotechnology or other related field. A Masters Degree or PHD in the fields mentioned an advantage. Minimum 5 years work experience in pacific white shrimp culture. Minimum 2 years work in pacific white shrimp grow-out or shrimp genetic program. Good communication and training skills. Good working attitude.

Applications can be obtained and submitted at the Saipan Shrimp & Broodstock Co., Ltd. Human Resources Office located in Linao Ln, China Town. Salaries will commensurate with qualifications and experience. To be considered, applications must be submitted no later than 5:00pm, Thursday, July 3, 2014

Saipan Shrimp & Broodstock Co., Ltd. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Qualified women, minorities and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

Nation

Obama: Threat from Iraq militants could grow

WASHINGTON (AP)—Al-Qaida-inspired militants who have violently seized territory in Iraq could grow in power and destabilize other countries in the region, President Barack Obama said.

The Iraqi public will ultimately reject the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, the extremist Sunni group threatening Iraq's government, but the group still represents a medium- and long-term threat to the United States, Obama said.

"We're going to have to be vigilant generally. Right now the problem with ISIS is the fact that they're destabilizing the country," Obama said, using a common acronym for the group. "That could spill over into some of our allies like Jordan."

The Sunni insurgency in Iraq and neighboring Syria is just one of an array of threats the U.S. must guard against, Obama said in an interview recorded Friday and airing Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation."

He pointed to the group Boko Haram in north Africa and al-Qaida groups in Yemen that he said also demand the attention

of the U.S. and its partners.

"What we can't do is think that we're just going to play whack-a-mole and send U.S. troops occupying various countries wherever these organizations pop up," Obama said. "We're going to have to have a more focused, more targeted strategy and we're going to have to partner and train local law enforcement and military to do their jobs as well."

Obama's comments came as U.S. lawmakers and officials within his own administration are grappling with the best way to address the growing insurgency in Iraq just years after American troops pulled out. As bloody sectarian violence breaks out once again in Iraq, a president who opposed the Iraq war and vowed to end it is finding the U.S. being lured back into the conflict by the deteriorating security situation.

Obama has announced plans to send 300 special operations forces into Iraq to train its military, but insists the U.S. military can't effectively quell the conflict unless Iraq's own Shiite-

led government pursues a more inclusive approach that doesn't shun the Sunni minority.

The issue has divided Congress, with some lawmakers criticizing Obama for doing too little and others warning the return of armed troops to Iraq could be the first step toward pulling the U.S. back into the conflict.

Sen. Rand Paul, R-Ky., said the unwillingness of Iraq's military to defend the city of Mosul begs the question of why the United State should.

"I'm not willing to send my son to defend that mess," Paul said Sunday on CNN.

Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., said she believes the U.S. needs to be talking to Iran because it can play a major role in helping to prevent a major war between Sunnis and Shiites. She also voiced concerns about the need to build up intelligence to help track recruits from Europe and the United States who have gone to the Middle East to participate in the wars there.

"There will be plots to kill Americans," she told CNN.

Military considers shopping perk for most veterans

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP)—The U.S. military is looking into allowing all of the nation's veterans who served honorably to shop online at exchanges that sell discounted, name-brand goods—a perk that is currently available only to a small minority.

The change is proposed by the Army & Air Force Exchange Service director as a way to show appreciation for veterans and to offset a loss of revenue as troops return from overseas, where they had few alternatives but to shop at the military retail stores.

For now, the online shopping is generally limited to current service members, veterans who served for 20 years or longer and their family members. Tom Shull, the director of the exchange service, said 20 million veterans would be affected if the Defense Department allows all veterans who served honorably to use the shopping website.

Veterans who use the site typ-

ically save 25 percent or more and do not pay state sales tax. Top-selling brands include Michael Kors, Under Armour and Levi's. Levi's jeans for children are \$15 to \$20 a pair versus \$28 or more in department stores.

In his seven years in the Army, Aleksandr Morosky deployed once to Kosovo and twice to Iraq. He said former service members have not asked for shopping privileges because they accepted that they are not entitled to the benefit. But if the policy changed, Morosky, 34, said he would use the site, and he thinks many other people would, too.

"I think that this makes a lot of sense," Morosky said. "I think it would be good for everybody involved."

Shull is adding more name-brand products and revamping the website, which last year broke even. He said he hopes to invite all veterans who served

honorably to begin shopping online on Veterans Day in 2015.

Shull said it is coincidental that he proposed his idea during the Department of Veterans Affairs scandal over long waits for patient care and falsified records covering up the delays at hospitals and clinics nationwide. He said he thought of it a year ago. And while it would benefit those who have been affected by the current challenges within the VA, Shull said, he did not suggest it for that reason.

U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a member of the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee, said, "It's a good idea. We should do it, but not view it as a way to make up for the VA's failings."

"Many, many veterans have not served a full 20 years but have nonetheless contributed immensely to the defense of our nation," said Blumenthal, D-Connecticut. "That service ought to be recognized more fully."

is in a very fluid state," DeSio said. "I'm not sure if the plans will be reactivated but, as we're speaking here this moment, it has been canceled. Tomorrow is another day."

Friends mourn hiker who 'showed us the way'

SEATTLE (AP)—Friends on Sunday mourned a well-known outdoors writer and photographer who had been missing for three days in Mount Rainier National Park before searchers said they recovered a body of a woman. The Na-

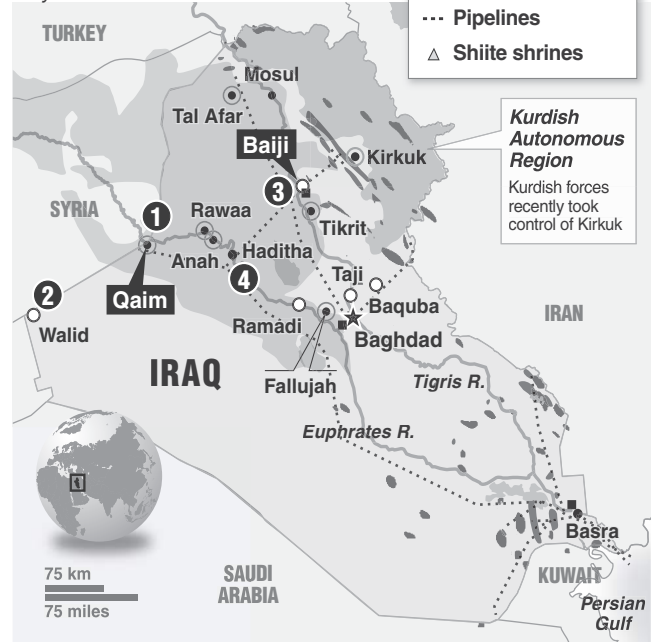
tional Park Service said it will be up to the Pierce County medical examiner to confirm that the body found Saturday afternoon was that of 70-year-old Karen Sykes of Seattle. It was discovered in an area where searchers were looking for Sykes, and they ended the three-day rescue effort after finding it. "For a lot of local hikers, it's an extreme loss," said Greg Johnston, who edited a "Trail of the Week" column she wrote for the Seattle Post-Intelligencer. "For decades, she showed us the way, and now that's gone."

World

Militants blitz through Iraq's western desert

ISIS control grows in west

On June 10, ISIS fighters captured Mosul, Iraq's second largest city. They have attacked a key oil refinery and power plant near Baiji in the north and pushed south into Diyala province. On June 21, ISIS took Qaim, a key border crossing into Syria.



- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| 1 Qaim
On June 21, ISIS attacked this border crossing from west, reportedly routing Iraqi security forces | 2 Walid
Reports say ISIS also attacked this crossing, but the result remains unclear | 3 Refinery near Baiji
Government soldiers are holding out, but ISIS controls highway approaches | 4 Dam at Haditha
ISIS advances spur fears that this crucial dam on Euphrates River could fall to them |
|---|--|---|---|

Source: Securing America's Future Energy, McClatchy Washington Bureau © 2014 MCT

S.Korean soldier who allegedly killed 5 surrounded

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—The parents of a runaway South Korean soldier holed up in a forest after allegedly killing five comrades near the North Korean border pleaded with him to surrender Monday as the military tightened a cordon meant to capture him alive.

There has been a massive manhunt for the soldier, identified only by his surname Yim, since authorities said he killed five and wounded seven Saturday night before fleeing his

frontline army unit with his standard issue K2 assault rifle.

The 22-year-old also fired Sunday on the troops chasing him, injuring a platoon leader. On Monday, officials said a South Korean soldier was wounded by suspected friendly fire.

Troops surrounded Yim so closely Monday in the forest about 7 kilometers (4 miles) from the border outpost that they could toss him a mobile phone to talk to his father. Yim, who still refused to surrender,

had ammunition and officials feared he might "commit an extreme act"—an apparent reference to suicide—Defense Ministry spokesman Kim Min-seok said at a briefing.

Besides the mobile phone, Yim's parents also used a loudspeaker to try to persuade him to surrender, according to the Defense Ministry.

It wasn't clear what triggered the rampage, and there was no indication that South Korea's bitter rival, North Korea, was involved.

WORLD BRIEFS

Russia's Putin calls for compromise in Ukraine

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin publicly expressed support Sunday for Ukraine's declaration of a cease-fire in its battle against pro-Russian separatists and called on both sides to negotiate a compromise. Putin said such a compromise must guarantee the rights of the Russian-speaking residents of eastern Ukraine, who must feel like they are "an integral part" of their own country. Putin's statement appeared to signal that he sees their future in Ukraine. Separatists in the eastern Donetsk and Luhansk regions have declared

independence and asked to join Russia. Moscow has rebuffed their appeals, but is seen by Ukraine and the West as actively supporting the insurgency. Putin's conciliatory words came as Russia began large-scale military exercises and after NATO accused Russia of moving troops back toward the Ukrainian border.

26 dead, 3 missing in southern China rainstorms

BEIJING (AP)—Five days of rainstorms in southern China have left 26 people dead and another three missing and led to direct economic losses of 4 billion yuan (\$650 million), ac-

cording to the country's Ministry of Civil Affairs. A total of 337,000 people have been evacuated and 115,000 are in urgent need of relief supplies as a result of the rainstorms that started Wednesday, the ministry said in a statement Sunday. Eleven of the fatalities occurred in Hunan province, where another two people are missing, the ministry said. The five other provinces where people have died included Jiangxi and Fujian. The rainstorms across nine provinces have led to floods and landslides, and toppled more than 8,700 houses, damaged another 66,000 and left 42,000 hectares of crops unusable, the statement said.

ACROSS THE NATION

Border Patrol shelves plans for California flights

SAN DIEGO (AP)—The Border Patrol on Sunday canceled flights scheduled to bring nearly 300 Central American migrants from south Texas to California for processing, but the plans could be reinstated, an official said. It was unclear why Monday's flights for San Diego and El Centro, about 100 miles east of San Diego, were shelved, said Ralph DeSio, a spokesman for Customs and Border Protection, the Border Patrol's parent agency. "This whole thing

Overdrive

Nissan sounds sweet Note

By G. CHAMBERS WILLIAMS III
FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM

The redesigned Nissan sub-compact hatchback, now called the Versa Note, arrived for 2014, two years after the corresponding Versa sedan model got its remake.

For 2014, the Note's starting price is \$13,990 for the base model S with a five-speed manual transmission; Nissan recently released the 2015 prices, and this model begins at \$14,180.

To get an automatic transmission means a step up to the Note S Plus model, which begins at \$15,240 for the 2014 version, and \$15,430 for the 2015. It comes with a continuously variable transmission, or CVT.

The Versa Note is the second installment of Nissan's redesign of the Versa line, after the launch of the sedan, prices for which begin at \$11,990 for the manual model, and \$12,990 for the CVT version.

As for the Note, its main competitors include the Honda Fit, Toyota Yaris, Chevrolet Sonic and Ford Fiesta.

This time, the two Versa models are different beyond just the hatchback versus sedan styling. The Note, which is more than a foot shorter than the sedan, has its own distinct look, and actually is on a different chassis.

Among its key features are the class-exclusive Around View Monitor, a new exterior design that includes a steeply sloped windshield and sculpted body panels; best-in-class EPA ratings of 31 mpg city and 35 combined; class-leading cargo space; and the optional Nissan-

Connect navigation/infotainment system with Bluetooth streaming audio.

The two versions do share the same engine and transmissions. Under the hood of all models is an advanced 1.6-liter, inline four-cylinder engine with 109 horsepower and 107 pound-feet of torque.

The automatic on the S Plus and SV models is Nissan's next-generation Xtronic CVT, a smooth-shifting transmission with no discernable shift points.

For this report, we tested the Note SV model with the CVT, which had a base price of \$17,690. The window sticker actually showed it as the SL model, with the SV Package added.

There was plenty of power from the 1.6-liter engine, and the CVT shifted seamlessly with little effort. Even uphill freeway ramps were no challenge, and the car zipped along at highway speeds with no problems. It's also very quiet inside for a car in this price class.

Fuel economy is impressive. With the CVT, the EPA ratings are 31 mpg city/40 highway/35 combined. They're not as high with the manual, though — 27/36/30.

One of my biggest surprises how roomy this car is. There is room for five people in the spacious interior. Even with the driver's seat way back, there was plenty of rear leg and knee room — more than I've seen in many of today's midsize sedans. Up front, there are comfortable bucket seats, with a center console that has two cupholders,

USB/auxiliary inputs, and a rear tray that is accessible to rear-seat passengers.

With the SL upgrade, rear passengers have a fold-down center armrest with dual cupholders, which eliminates the middle seating position, but makes it more comfortable for the two outboard passengers.

In the cargo area, there is an optional Divide-N-Hide adjustable floor (included in the SL package); with the 60/40-split fold-down rear seat folded, there is a large, flat cargo area all the way to the front seatbacks.

Under the cargo floor is a hidden storage area, which also creates a deep well for taller cargo.

Standard are cloth seats, four-way manually adjustable front bucket seats (six-way adjust is included with the SV), Fine Vision instruments, AM/FM/CD audio system with four speakers, 12-volt power outlet, front door pockets with bottle holders, and 15-inch wheels.

Extras with the SL package included 16-inch aluminum-alloy wheels; the Nissan Intelligent Key with keyless entry and pushbutton start; heated front seats; front fog lights; an upgraded audio system with 4.3-inch color display; and a rearview monitor that showed on that display.

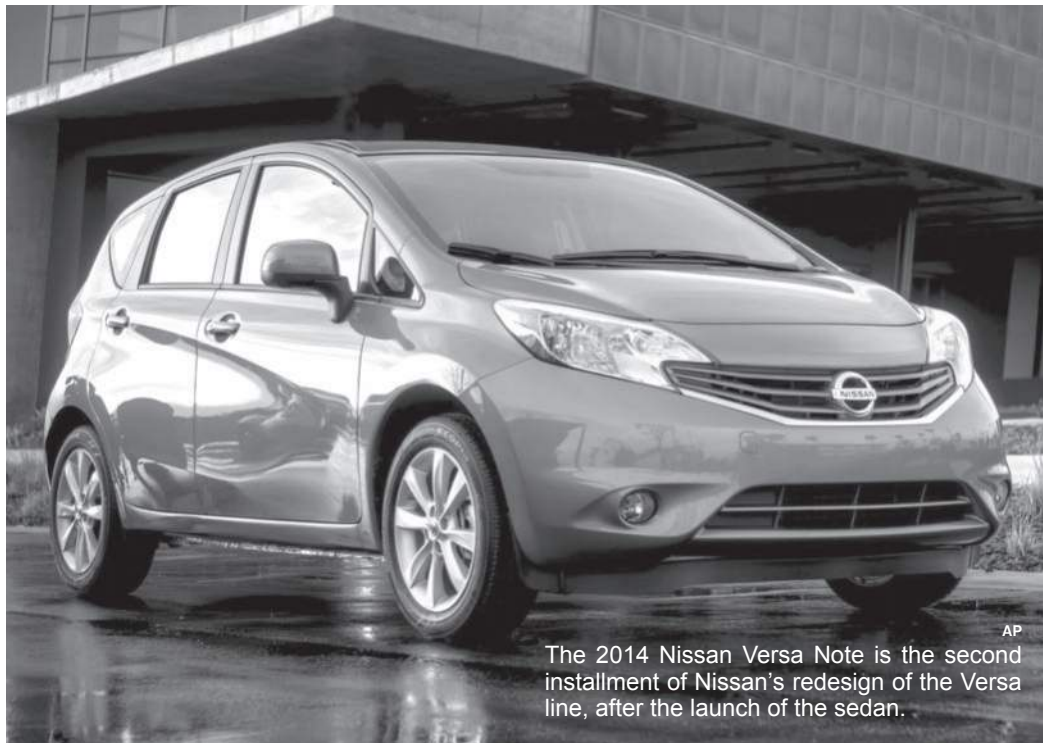
We had the optional Around View Monitor, which uses four small wide-angle cameras mounted on the front, side and rear of the car to project a virtual 360-degree view of the area around the vehicle, as though you are looking down on it from above. It's great for maneuvering in tight spots. It's part of the SL Tech Package, which also brought the heated outside mirrors, NissanConnect with navigation, NavTraffic and NavWeather.

The nav system has a 5.8-inch color touch-screen dash display, hands-free text messaging, streaming audio, Pandora radio capability (iPhone only), and points of interest (by Google).

Safety and security features include front seat-mounted side air bags, roof-mounted side-curtain air bags for both rows, electronic stability control with traction control, and tire-pressure monitoring. Nissan's Easy-Fill Tire Alert system is optional.

We had carpeted floor and cargo mats and a cargo cover, as well. Total sticker price of our SL tester was \$19,565, including freight and options.

Other stand-alone options include 15- and 16-inch aluminum-alloy wheels. Besides the SL Tech Package, there are an SV Convenience Package and Sport Value Package.



The 2014 Nissan Versa Note is the second installment of Nissan's redesign of the Versa line, after the launch of the sedan.

In Celebration of his new life †Victorino Nekai Igitol “Aschumeng” Lovingly known as ‘Minong’

Born to This Life: February 23, 1943
Called to Eternal Life: June 17, 2014

In his new life, he now joins his:

Parents: †Luis Nemaicei Igitol & †Victoria Nekai Igitol
Daughters: †Vicky Ann Maratita Igitol & †Mae Elaine Maratita Igitol
Sister: †Maria Elizabeth Nekai Igitol
Brother: †Nicolas Nekai Igitol
Maternal Grandmother: †Fabiana Nekai
Paternal Grandparents: †Lorenzo & Elena Igitol
Wife: †Presentacion Maratita Igitol
Godmother: †Adela Selepeo Lifofoi
Godfather: †Santiago Babauta

He will be greatly missed by his:

Wife: Alice Camacho Santos Igitol
Children: Joseph Shaun C. Santos & Pearl Kaipat (Ignacio Manuel, Sinahi Antonio) Maria ‘Kiki’ Elizabeth & James Kennedy DLG. Benjamin (Maria Maelaine, Angelo Nicolas, Marlaine Kenzie, and Derence James Victorio) Fabiana Angelina & Crispin A. Pangelinan, Jr. (Avilina Divine, Crucifio Christian, Victoria Mary, Vicky Ann, Christopher Alexander, Angelina Jade, Isabella, Carmelo Cris, Cris Victorious) Kayla Therese S. Igitol & Joseph M. Magofna (Joseph Jude, Victor Joel, Vyonika Jessalin, Ayden Jose) Beverly Brenda S. Igitol & Peter Camacho (Justin Vaughn, Javen Vical) Elouise Shevon S. Igitol & Langkilde Paleaee (V-Tayo Zeus, Tatiyana Va’ali, Alana Faith) Monique Victoria S. Igitol (Vashon Jessiah, Franklin David) Victorino N. Igitol, Jr. & Anessa Arriola (Anastacia Ha’ane) Luis Lorenzo S. Igitol & Christy Lynn Cepeda (Ky’mani Vakai) Preschanel Viconicia Maratita Santos Igitol

Children at Heart: X-Ner S. Luther, Esther Mahora, Leonora C. Teigita, Rufina Fidela Olupomar, Irene Olupomar, Maria Ana Olupomar, Jerilyn Olupomar, Annalyn Olupomar, Cassandra Taitano, John Peter T. Teigita, Sheree Gardinier, Wilton Ngotel, Sonny Nguyen.

Victorino will also be missed and forever cherished by many of his sisters and brothers at heart, godchildren, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, nephews, and close friends.

On Wednesday, June 25th, †Victorino's remains will be escorted from the CHC Chapel to his residence in Tanapag at 7:00 a.m. for Responso & Holy Rosary. He will be escorted to Nuestra Senora Bithen de los Remedios at 10:00 a.m. for last respects and memorial tributes. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 12:30 p.m., followed by interment services at Tanapag Cemetery.

Prayer of the Holy Rosary is being said nightly at 8:00 p.m. at his residence in Tanapag.

Ghilisow Reemi, Si Yu'us Ma'ase, Kalangan, Mesulang, and thank you all for your presence, thoughts and prayers.

The Family

NUTS & BOLTS

NUTS & BOLTS:

2014 Nissan Versa Note Hatchback:

- On the Road rating: 9.2 (of a possible 10).
- The package: Five-door, five-passenger, front-wheel-drive, four-cylinder, subcompact, economy hatchback
- Advantages: Redesigned for 2014, this is the hatchback version of Nissan's entry-level car for the U.S. market. It's economical to buy and operate, and has more interior space than its competitors and as much rear passenger room as some midsize cars.
- Negatives: No engine upgrade offered for sportier performance.
- Engine: 1.6-liter inline four-cylinder
- Transmissions: Five-speed manual; c ontinuously variable automatic (optional)
- Power/torque: 109 horsepower/107 pound-feet
- Length: 163 inches
- Curb weight: 2,412-2,482 pounds
- Brakes, front/rear: Disc/drum, antilock
- Side air bags: Front seat-mounted; side-curtain for both rows
- Electronic stability control: Standard
- Fuel capacity/type: 10.8 gallons/unleaded regular
- EPA fuel economy: 27 mpg city/36 highway/30 combined (manual); 31/40/35 (CVT)
- Base price, excluding destination charge: \$13,990
- Price as tested: **\$19,565**

Life & Style

Jackson remains a provider 5 years after death

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's been five years since Michael Jackson died, yet his career is more alive than it has been in decades.

Just last month, the singer moonwalked across a Las Vegas stage in a nationally televised hologram performance. A new album recently debuted at No. 2 on music charts. And a traveling Cirque du Soleil show based on Jackson's songs has logged nearly 500 performances worldwide.

The result has been an estate that has earned more than \$600 million since the King of Pop's untimely death at age 50.

Some of the earnings support Jackson's three children and mother. Yet an analysis by The Associated Press shows much more has gone to erase the singer's massive debts and to run the estate that powers his robust posthumous career.

As would be expected, the last five years have brought their share of change and adjustment for Jackson's children, known to the world as Prince, 17; Paris, 16; and Blanket, 12. They were at their father's rented mansion on June 25, 2009, when he was given an overdose of the anesthetic propofol in his upstairs bedroom. And they were at the hospital several hours later

when he was pronounced dead. It would take more than two years before Jackson's doctor was convicted of involuntary manslaughter.

A father who taught his children philanthropy, threw them lavish birthday parties and meticulously masked them from the paparazzi is gone. Michael Jackson, however, continues to provide.

Nearly \$20 million had been spent to support Jackson's children and his mother, Katherine, through 2012. Payments to the family have increased each year since June 2009, according to court records. Adulthood will bring a sizeable inheritance for each child.

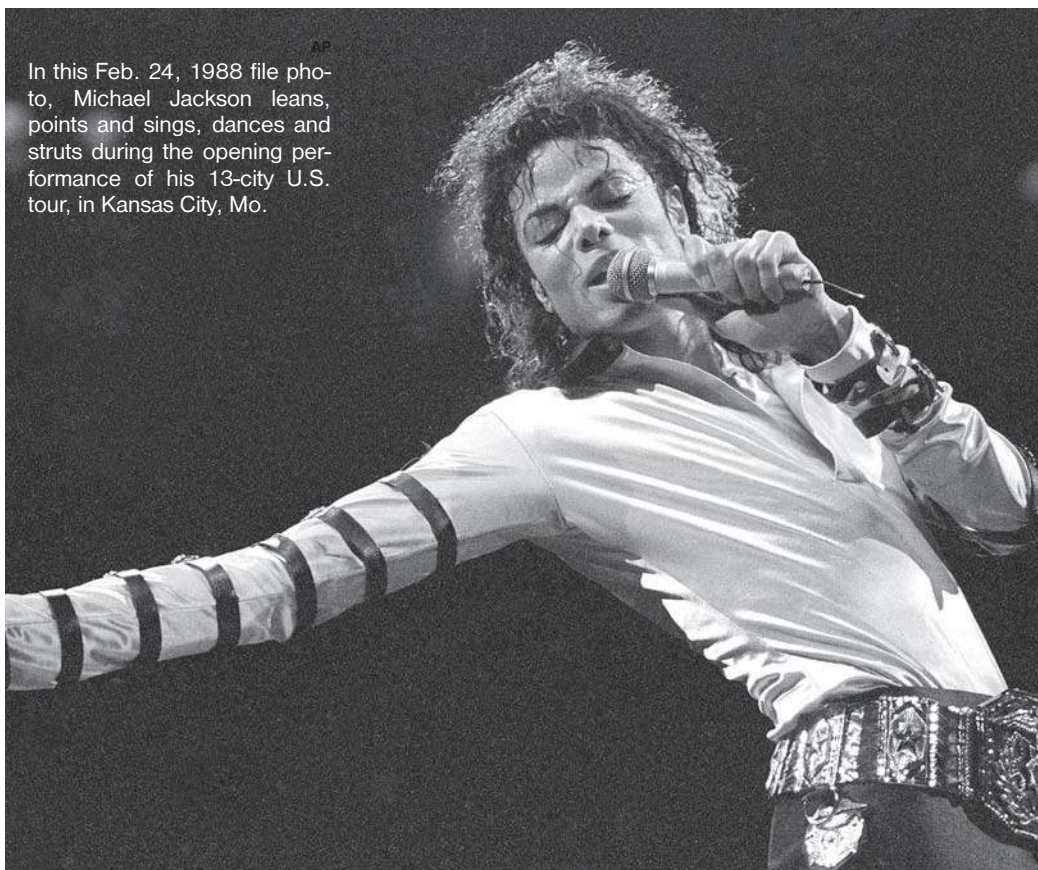
In the meantime, lawyers have busily untangled Jackson's finances, which itself has been expensive. Among the disbursements between mid-2009 and the end of 2012:

- More than \$91 million on taxes and licenses, including \$45 million paid to the federal government for taxes.

- More than \$25 million in compensation for the estate's executors, Jackson's longtime attorney John Branca and family friend and music executive John McClain. The men receive a percentage of the estate's earnings.

- More than \$17 million to

In this Feb. 24, 1988 file photo, Michael Jackson leans, points and sings, dances and struts during the opening performance of his 13-city U.S. tour, in Kansas City, Mo.



lawyers who represent the estate, Katherine and her grandchildren.

- Nearly \$4 million to properly store and archive the trove of personal belongings and unreleased music that Jackson amassed during his lifetime.

"This is a complex estate with unique issues," said Kath-

erine's attorney, Perry Sanders Jr. "Under all the circumstances, Mrs. Jackson and the children are certainly being well cared for."

Sanders, who has conducted audits of the estate's spending,

said everything is in order and detailed financial records match precisely what has been presented in court.

"It's surprising how big the numbers are, but then when you realize what goes into it—and

that a judge has approved those numbers—then it becomes not so shocking," said Irwin Feinberg, an attorney who specializes in probate litigation.

While Jackson craved success, his priority in later years was his children. The trio is a large part of the singer's legacy, and the music, dance moves and business pieces he left behind assure them a comfortable, if not care-free, lifestyle.

Jackson's children live with their grandmother in a hilltop home in the celebrity enclave of Calabasas, home to the Kardashian family, Britney Spears and many others. The estate pays for private schools and tutors, a chef, private security and family vacations, giving the Jackson children the stability their father strived to provide.

"Michael's number one priority was his children, not wealth or fame," said Tom Mesereau, the attorney who successfully defended Jackson against child molestation charges and stays in touch with his family.

"He wanted them to get the best education possible," Mesereau said. "He wanted them to be worldly."

Jennifer Lopez says music has been 'challenging'

NEW YORK (AP)—Jennifer Lopez remembers the days when her record label budgeted \$1 million for one of her music videos. Today, she's attempting to create the same magic with one-tenth of the money.

The entrepreneur says being a singer has been "challenging" since she debuted on the pop scene in the late 1990s, dominating the charts with back-to-back hits while becoming a driving force on other entertainment platforms.

"It used to be like this big magical world, almost like Oz, when you'd make a record," the 44-year-old says. "[It] was like anything was possible."

Lopez, who released her eighth album, "A.K.A.," on Tuesday, says the music industry no longer feels like Oz.

"Now, it's like, 'We'll see if we can do that and we can give you this much,'" she says of record label meetings. "And you're like, 'Wow, OK. So how am I gonna do that?' It's a whole different mindset."

She enjoys the challenge, Lopez says. When coming up with creative concepts, she has thought to herself: "What great idea can I come up with that costs nothing?"

Her last platinum effort was



Jennifer Lopez poses for a portrait in promotion of her new album "AKA" at the Standard High Line Hotel, on Tues., June 10, 2014 in New York.

2002's "This Is Me ... Then." Its follow-up, 2005's "Rebirth," sold 745,000 units. Since then, she's had some successful singles, but she's no longer one of pop's "it" girls, racking up multiple hits, earning Grammy nominations and winning other accolades.

The performer hopes fans can hear the work she's done in the past four years on "A.K.A.," an album filled with pop, R&B and dance sounds.

"I want woman to feel empowered. I want women to know what they deserve and to not take anything else, and to look at love in that way," she says.

Lopez says that's why she recruited white-hot rapper Iggy Azalea for the record: "I was thinking of working with a female rapper because, again, of the strength and subject matter of the album, I wanted some girl to be talking smack with me."

NEW YORK (AP)—The Las Vegas ensemble comedy "Think Like a Man Too" topped a slow weekend at the summer box office with \$30 million, besting blockbuster holdovers from last week and Clint Eastwood's new Four Seasons musical "Jersey Boys."

The Kevin Hart sequel "Think Like a Man Too" narrowly edged out "22 Jump Street," which earned \$29 million in its second week of release, according to studio estimates Sunday. The DreamWorks animated film "How to Train Your Dragon 2" slid to third with \$25.3 million.

The top three films are all sequels that moved into the big box-office summer season following surprise hit originals released in the springtime.

Moving into summer's bigger competition actually diminished Sony Screen Gems' "Think Like

a Man Too." The first film, also directed by Tim Story and starring mostly the same ensemble led by Hart, opened with \$33.6 million in April 2012.

Warner Bros.' "Jersey Boys," Eastwood's adaptation of the Tony-winning Broadway musical about Frankie Valli's group, opened in fourth with \$13.5 million. The film drew an overwhelmingly older audience, with 71 percent of its moviegoers over the age of 50.

Overall business at the multiplexes was down considerably. "Think Like a Man Too" and "Jersey Boys" pale in comparison to the openings on the same frame last year, when "Monsters University" and "World War Z" led a weekend gross 38 percent higher.

The box office will get a boost next weekend when Paramount's "Transformers: Age of Extinction" opens. The film, the fourth in the franchise and featuring a

Billboard reported that "A.K.A."—Lopez's first album for Capitol Music Group—would sell about 30,000 units next week, her lowest sales for a debut week.

"The numbers today as compared to the numbers 10 years ago to me, it's a very different conversation because it's more diversified how people consume music," says Greg Thompson, executive vice president of Capitol. "We try to

make sure that not only do we have a good first week, but that we can continue to sell records because I think that Jennifer's fan base will come out week two, three and four, too. It's about constantly driving that album in people's consciousness."

Thompson says he believes the current single, the Max Martin-produced "First Love," is "going to go all the way." He says they plan to work the pop song throughout the summer.

'Think Like a Man' tops 'Jersey Boys' with \$30M

revamped cast led by Mark Wahlberg, is expected to be one of the summer's biggest grossers.

But this weekend belonged to Sony, which occupied the top two spots. Last summer was rockier for the studio, with disappointments like "After Earth" and "White House Down." Rory Bruer, head of distribution for Sony, called the chart-topping weekend "a call for celebration."

1. "Think Like a Man Too," \$30 million.
2. "22 Jump Street," \$29 million (\$14.5 million international).
3. "How To Train Your Dragon 2," \$25.3 million (\$43.5 million international).
4. "Jersey Boys," \$13.5 million (\$1.6 million international).
5. "Maleficent," \$13 million (\$44.7 million international).
6. "Edge of Tomorrow," \$13.3 million (\$21.5 million international).
7. "The Fault in Our Stars," \$8.6 million (\$20 million international).
8. "X-Men: Days of Future Past," \$6.4 million (\$11.3 million international).
9. "Chef," \$1.8 million.
10. "Godzilla," \$1.8 million (\$15 million international).

New Rowling book finally available on Amazon

By **HILLEL ITALIE**
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—J.K. Rowling's latest novel has quickly climbed up the best-seller lists now that it's finally available for purchase on Amazon.com.

Rowling's detective novel "The Silkworm" was in the top 100 by late Thursday for both print and e-book sales. She wrote it under the pen name "Robert Galbraith."

Thursday was the book's official publication date, but

it couldn't be ordered before then through Amazon because the online retailer and Rowling's U.S. publisher, Hachette Book Group, are arguing over e-book terms. Amazon delayed shipments for some books by Hachette authors or made the releases entirely unavailable.

Buying "The Silkworm" in hardcover still isn't without some frustration: Customers were told delivery would likely take 2-4 weeks.

Barnes & Noble's website ranks "The Silkworm" No. 1 for print and No. 5 for e-books.

This Oct. 16, 2012 file photo shows author J.K. Rowling at an appearance to promote her latest book "The Casual Vacancy," at The David H. Koch Theater in New York.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Salman Rushdie wins PEN/Pinter writing prize

LONDON (AP)—The writers' group PEN is honoring Salman Rushdie for his "outstanding" literary output and support for freedom of expression. The India-born writer, who spent years in hiding after his novel "The Satanic Verses" drew a death edict from Iran's religious authorities, was named winner Friday of the PEN/Pinter prize. The award was established in 2009 in memory of Nobel Prize-winning playwright Harold Pinter. His widow, Antonia Fraser, said Pinter had "respected Salman twice over, both for his work and his great personal courage." The prize goes jointly to a British writer seen as sharing Pinter's "unflinching, unswerving" gaze on society, and an international writer who has faced persecution, chosen by the British winner and PEN. The co-winner will be announced at an Oct. 9 ceremony in London.

50 Cent: SMS Audio benefits from Beats/Apple

NEW YORK (AP)—50 Cent thinks the recent blockbuster deal between Beats by Dre and Apple only helps his headphone company. "The success of Beats is great for us. It makes the category understand how valuable our association is to that company," he said. "When they see the company, and see that it sold for \$3.1 billion, they go: 'That one is definitely next, that's the one that has the cool factor connected to it while producing quality products.'" Beats Electronics, the leader in the headphone market and a music streaming company, was acquired by Apple last month. SMS Audio has been around since 2011. On Wednesday night, 50 Cent was joined by the company's new pitchman, basketball star Carmelo Anthony, at a penthouse hotel party as SMS introduced its new line of sports headphones in both wired and wireless editions.

HBO to air segments of Beyonce concerts

NEW YORK (AP)—Beyonce is headed back to HBO. The network announced Thursday that it will air four 10-minute segments of her concerts ahead of "True Blood." Dubbed "Beyonce: X10," the segments will air Sundays at 8:55 p.m. Eastern starting June 29. The final season of "True Blood" premieres Sunday. The footage is from Beyonce's Mrs. Carter World Tour, which wrapped in March. She launches a co-headlining tour with Jay Z next week. The Beyonce documentary "Life Is but a Dream" debuted on HBO last year. The network said it was the most viewed music special on the channel since 2003. The megastar is riding high off the release of her self-titled fifth album, which has sold 2 million units. It features the hit, "Drunk in Love."

Artists want to protect O'Keeffe's 'Black Place'

NAGEEZI, N.M. (AP)—Some artists and environmentalists are concerned that oil and gas drilling is encroaching on the black, white and gray hills in northwestern New Mexico made famous in Georgia O'Keeffe's drawings and paintings. While the "Black Place" itself remains untouched, The New Mexican reports that dozens of drilling tanks are 500 yards from the site and it's surrounded by rigs and a maze of dusty dirt roads traveled by oilfield workers. The head of the O'Keeffe Museum in Santa Fe, Robert Kret, says he had a preliminary discussion with state preservation officials and another meeting is planned. But state officials say it's too early to say what could be done to protect the Black Place. The area is on federal land just east of the Navajo community of Nageezi.

Harrison Ford healing after surgery on broken leg

NEW YORK (AP)—Harrison Ford is recuperating after surgery to heal a broken leg suffered during production on "Star Wars: Episode VII."

The actor's publicist said Thursday that Ford is doing well after surgery and will soon begin rehab. Ford was injured a week ago during filming of the much-anticipated sequel at Pinewood Studios outside of London.

The accident involved a spacecraft door falling on the 71-year-old actor's leg. Ford's Han Solo pilots



Ford

the Millennium Falcon, which is returning in "Episode VII."

Disney has said that shooting is continuing while Ford recuperates. He's expected to be sidelined up to two months.

Ford is one of several original "Star Wars" stars returning to the J.J. Abrams-directed sequel. He's joined by fellow alums Mark Hamill, Carrie Fisher and Peter Mayhew.

Kanye, Leibovitz issue joint statement on wedding

NEW YORK (AP)—Kanye West and Annie Leibovitz have issued a joint statement clarifying comments the rapper made recently about the photographer.

The Thursday statement says West's comments Tuesday at the Cannes Lions International Advertising Festival regarding Leibovitz's availability to shoot his wedding "have been taken out of context and sensationalized."

West was frustrated that he

couldn't secure Leibovitz's services for his marriage to Kim Kardashian last month, the statement says, but he was not assigning blame. Their representatives had been negotiating, but did not reach an agreement by the time of the wedding.

The statement says West's dream was to bring together his favorite creatives, and that Leibovitz was his first choice to capture "one of the most special days in Kim and Kanye's life."

Pop icon Sting says his kids won't get trust funds

LONDON (AP)—Pop icon Sting says his children won't be getting trust funds from his vast fortune, assuming there's any money left in it.

The 16-time Grammy Award winner and former frontman of The Police, told The Mail on Sunday that the vast wealth would be "albatrosses" around the necks of his six children.

The singer-songwriter who grew up in a shipbuilding com-

munity in northeast England says he told the kids, "there won't be much money left because we are spending it!"

"People make assumptions, that they were born with a silver spoon in their mouth, but they have not been given a lot," he was quoted as saying.

Sting's wealth was estimated at 180 million pounds (\$306 million) by the Sunday Times Rich List.

Teen initiates 'the talk,' but mom opts to dodge it

DEAR ABBY: I'm 16 and entering my junior year of high school. My boyfriend, "Jonah," and I have been dating for almost a year and we would like to become sexually active, but I'm scared condoms won't cut it. I have tried talking to my mom about it, but she doesn't think I should go on birth control.

Abby, I'm just trying to keep the risk of getting pregnant as low as possible. I'm not sure my mom understands that. What should I do? I know for sure my mother will find out if I go to my doctor and talk privately about this with her. Please help me because I'm just trying to protect myself.

PRACTICAL TEEN IN NEW YORK

DEAR PRACTICAL TEEN: You appear to be a level-headed young woman who is trying to make mature decisions. Discussing sex with parents can be difficult -- not only for you, but also for them.

If you are willing to talk about this with your mother again, try using a magazine, a TV show or my column as a jumping-off point to start the conversation. Sometimes it may take more than one talk to feel comfortable disclosing your personal feelings and intentions.

You should be able to get confidential health services from your doctor or another health care provider. Depending upon where you live, however, parental permission may be needed.

You will have to check to find out.

In terms of birth control methods, hormonal birth control is effective when used correctly. But using hormonal birth control and a condom TOGETHER offers the best protection from both pregnancy and sexually transmitted diseases.

For many years, I have recommended Planned Parenthood (plannedparenthood.org) for reproductive health services, which include information, contraception, testing and education about a full range of options for women, men and teens across the United States. Its services are confidential and comply with relevant laws, which may vary from state to state.

Some Planned Parenthood centers scale their charges according to income, and most accept health insurance. Your local Planned Parenthood health center can give you specific information about costs and policies. If you qualify, Medicaid or other state programs may lower the costs.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: Do you think it's bad that my two girls don't see their father? I don't keep them from him. He's welcome to see them, but he is now remarried and has never asked for them. He left our household 10 years ago.

To be honest, the girls don't even talk about him anymore. Is it OK to let them go on with their lives with the family

DEAR ABBY

By **ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



members who are in it?

NEW MEXICO MOMMY

DEAR NEW MEXICO MOMMY: It's sad that your daughters have no relationship with their father. However, because he has shown no interest in having one with them, you have no option but to let them go on with their lives.

The question that comes to mind is, has he been supporting the girls financially? If the answer is no, you should have gotten a lawyer involved 10 years ago.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$14 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

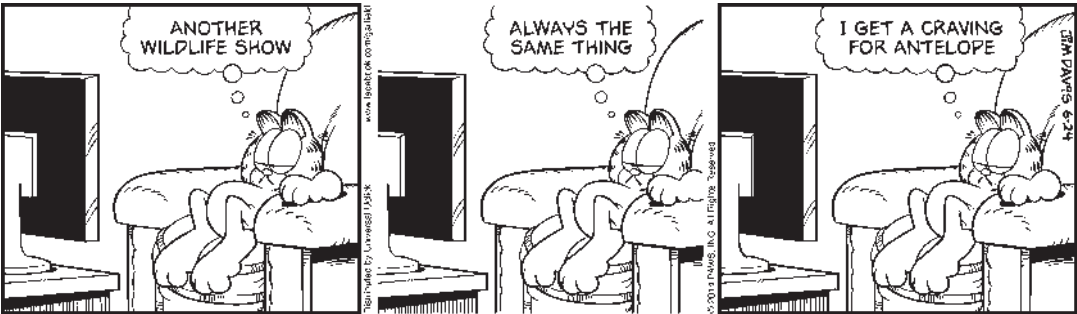
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



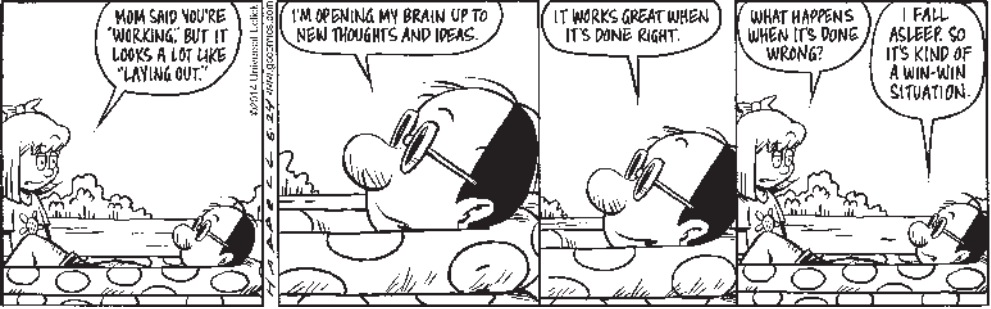
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS 39 Peruke 5 Poultry 25 Neither 1 Peaceful 40 Talent 26 Snapshots 5 Headgear 43 Allegorical story 6 "Two and a Half Men" 27 Kenny 8 Spar 47 Celestial phenom 7 Apiece 8 Cham-pagne 28 Individual 12 Met melody 50 Teeny bit 51 Census statistic 9 Unsigned (Abbr.) 31 Junior 13 Hearty quaff 49 Accepted 8 Cham-pagne 28 Individual 14 Division term 51 Census statistic 9 Unsigned (Abbr.) 31 Junior 15 Repast 52 Own 53 Painter 10 Dazzle 34 Burning 16 Lover 54 Foundation 11 1776 35 Boring 18 Perfect model 54 Foundation 17 Hebrew sort 36 Evergreen 20 Marie's brother 55 War god 19 Guy's date 37 Mystery 21 Novelist Brown 1 Bivouac 22 Space Christie 22 Petrol 2 Neighbor-hood 23 Bigwig, for short 39 Like shiny floors 23 Records material 2 Tale-teller 24 Greek 40 Practice pugilism 26 Sunshade 3 Ailment 41 Pippa's sister 30 Berlin's "What'll —?" 4 Ailment 42 Press 43 Senate staffer 44 Piglet's papa 45 Adore 46 — out (supple-ments) 48 Science workshop

Solution time: 22 mins.

Yesterdays answer 6-24

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Minika Kelly, 34; Mindy Kaling, 35; Sherry Stringfield, 47; Jeff Beck, 70.

Happy Birthday: You will have trouble moving forward if you have unfinished business. Use your imagination and you will come up with viable solutions. Change can be good if you go about it the right way. Think matters through and focus on your destination. Walk away from matters that cannot be resolved. It's time to clear a path to a brighter future. Your numbers are 2, 15, 26, 29, 32, 35, 49.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Take care of domestic matters before they escalate into a full-fledged problem. Whether it's a physical, emotional or financial fix that's required, stay on top of matters. Expect to alter your plans due to a last-minute change. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Don't share personal secrets. You'll encounter someone who is jealous and unpredictable. Keep your professional matters to yourself and focus on doing your job. Accept the inevitable and you will find it much easier to deal with the changes going on around you. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Stick to whatever budget you set. Impulse purchases will set you back financially. Problems with settlements, legal matters or contracts can be avoided if you are precise in what's acceptable and what isn't. You cannot please everyone. ***

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Take part in community ventures that are geared toward improving your neighborhood. Showing an interest can bring about positive

changes. The contributions you make will raise issues that must be dealt with before you can proceed with your plans. ****

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You are in need of a change. Take the initiative. Start a crusade that brings about incentive to the people you work with to help you reach your goals. An emotional relationship will be enhanced by your actions. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Put everything you've got into doing the best job possible. You will be judged on your professional dealings and ability to get along with others. Don't be fooled by someone trying to mislead you. Control, caution and courtesy will lead to victory. **

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Listen, discuss plans and do your best to learn whatever information you require firsthand. Ulterior motives are apparent where money is concerned. Get whatever you agree upon in writing. A change of plans can help alleviate discord. *****

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Evasiveness regarding a contract or investment should be questioned. Home improvements that are conducive to your comfort and emotional outlook should be put into motion. Make a point to do a follow-up regarding a medical issue. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Hard work plus creativity and talent will put you ahead professionally. A partnership will have its perks as long as you keep what you bring to the table equal. Don't be enticed by someone offering a secret rendezvous. ***

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

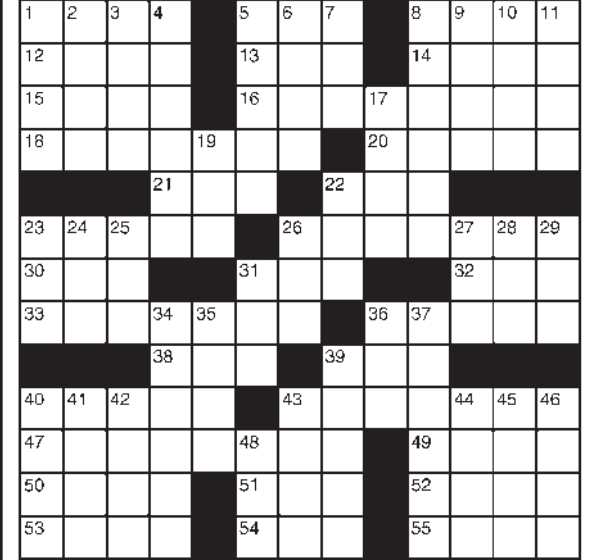
COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take a walk down memory lane and you will find the answers you need to move forward. Reflect, rejuvenate and consider your options. With a little thought, consideration and planning, you can improve your life. Try something new. ***

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Don't neglect your responsibilities when you should be moving full-tilt ahead in order to reach your destination. Making changes to your personal surroundings or altering how you live will bring you satisfaction and greater joy. Love is highlighted. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Stop procrastinating and make a move. Time is of the essence and can make a difference between success and failure. Make a decision regarding your home and your personal finances. A joint venture isn't likely to work, so be prepared to move forward on your own. ****

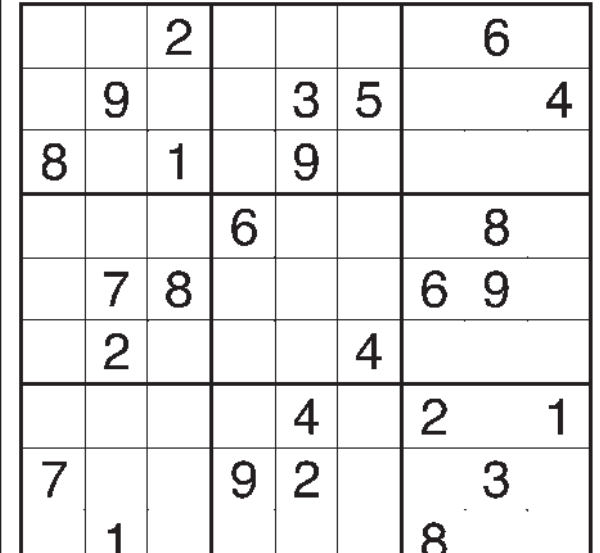
Birthday Baby: You are innovative, inspiring and kind. You are impulsive and helpful. Eugenia's website—eugenialast.com, Eugenia's android app @ <http://bit.ly/exhoro> and join Eugenia on twitter/facebook/linkedin.



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

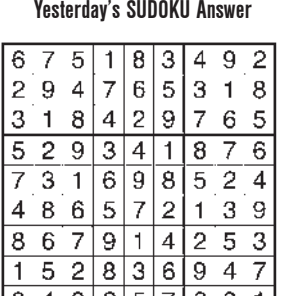
SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green



Difficulty Level ★★ 6/24 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.



WONDERWORD By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

THE WORLD OF ANDROID! Solution: 11 letters

M T U N O D E T A E R C H H S
O A M N S E V A I I R O T A T
V B G E R V A P A D N H O R S
I L I E E I S L N E E O O D A
E E N R S C C I Y K M T T W N
S T G C W E B C A S A E E A D
T S E S O U O C E D E C U R W
R K R P R M P G V T R H L E I
E I B C B U A A N E C N B L C
A T R E C M N M E G E O S G H
M K E D I C U E M D C L O S
A A A N E X U S A I I O O O A
V T D D G N I P I W S G B G L
A P L A Y D N A L C O Y O R F
J E L L Y B E A N S C O R E S

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Advanced, Andy, Bluetooth, Browsers, Create, Cupcake, Data, Device, Donut, Eclair, Edit, Email, Flash, Froyo, Games, Gingerbread, Google, GPS, Hardware, Honeycomb, Ice Cream, Images, Java, Jelly Bean, KitKat, Movies, Music, Nexus, Play, Robot, Rubin, Sandwich, Save, Scores, Screen, Stream, Swiping, Tablets, Technology, Widget
Yesterday's Answer: Zipping
To purchase THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 27, 31, 35, 36, 37 or 38, order online at www.WonderWordBooks.com. (Contains 43 puzzles.)

CLASSIFIED ADS

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American gentleman wants to meet a nice lady. Enjoy happy times with a nice man. Call to meet 287-5522

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3 Masseuses
Salary \$5.55
One (1) year experience.
Please mail resume to PMB 155 Box 10003, Saipan, MP 96950 or call 285-8018

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1 VIDEO OPERATOR
- Film and edit video footage using professional video and editing equipments, with at least 3 yrs experience and be able to work flexible hrs in Tinian and Saipan.
Interested applicants may send resume by mail or e-mail to:
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P.O. Box 520353, Tinian, MP 96952
E-MAIL: kpent@pticom.com

www.saipantribune.com

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
ASSISTANT OFFICE MANAGER (1) Min 5 yrs exp in administrative and HR functions. Knowledgeable in Peachtree prog, prepares tax reports, handles permits, licenses & workers' immig docs. Represents the company before banks & gov't agencies. Clears container shipment/docs at Customs. College grad. Salary depends on qualifications & exp.
CARPENTER (1) Min 5 yrs exp in bldg repairs, maintenance & installation such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing, mechanical & others. Familiar in OSHA and CNMI environmental laws. Knowledgeable in using maintenance tools & equipment. Must have a certification from OSHA const industry safety & health training. Salary depends on qualifications.
Send resume to hongeei@pticom.com **HONG ELECTRIC ENTERPRISES, INC.**

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
Must be college graduate with at least 5 years experience in communication business. Proficient in verbal and written communication skills. Computer literate and expertise in Microsoft office applications
ACCOUNTANT
Must be college graduate with degree in Accounting or Business Administration and has minimum of 6 years experience in communication business. Computer literate, expertise in Microsoft office applications and Accounting softwares. Knowledge in preparation of financial reports, tax, budget, forecast , billings. Proficient in verbal and written communication.
Send resume to Choice Radio, Inc. P.O. Box 501750 Saipan, MP 96950.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Accounting Clerk
At least 2 yrs. experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.
(2) Maintenance
At least high school graduate . A valid driver's license. Ability to use efficiently various power and hand tools. Knows how to follow oral written instructions and can communicate efficiently and fluently in both written and oral form.
(1) Auto Mechanic
Must have at least 2 yrs. work related experience.
Excellent diagnostic/ repair skills of vehicle systems. High self motivation.
(4) Trash Collector
At least High School graduate. With valid driver's license. Needs to be physically fit and willing to work flexible time and must be hardworking.
(3) Househelper
Knowledge in cooking Chinese, Japanese, Thai, Cuisine is a must. Experienced in household chores like cleaning, ironing, gardening, paying bills, and baby sitting. With valid driver's license.
(2) Security Guard
Wide security experience in access systems, patrolling, investigative procedures, incident report writing, and customer service. At least 2 years of experience. Willing to work flexible time.
(1) Garbage Collector Supervisor
Experienced in supervising and coordinating activities of workers engaged in collecting garbage and other refuse and transporting to disposal plants or areas. With valid driving license. Hardworking and trustworthy. Willing to work flexible time.
Submit Applications to:
AYD Services Inc. Tel. # (670)235-7011

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Looking for used cars 2008 & up, Sienna and 4Runner. Good condition. We pay CASH! 287-7676

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
(1) Accounting Clerk
At least 2 yrs. experience. Proficient in various computer software, such as MS Excel, Word, Peach Tree & other Accounting Softwares.
(1) Sewing Machine Operator
High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 yrs. related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
(1) Inventory Clerk
High School Diploma or general education degree; or one to 2 yrs. related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.
(2) Store Keeper
At least High School Graduate and with 2 yrs. experience. Trustworthy and willing to work flexible time.
Submit Applications to:
Pam Pacific Enterprises Corp. • Tel. 235-7270

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT
General Ledger Accountant (1)
Job Duties:
Responsible for the accounting on a number of our smaller entities, you will also assist in the bookkeeping and accounting for our main entity. Duties will include accounts payable and receivable, bank reconciliation, monthly P&L review and preparation of returns. You will act as finance contact to our asset management team for your entities and engage with colleagues to control budgets.
Qualification Requirements:
With an academic qualification in finance related field, you will have broad accounting experience, ideally with some prior reporting responsibilities. Although working within a close team you will be able to take responsibility and see them through. QuickBooks is a plus but not essential.
Resumes can be mailed to Achugao Services, LLC, PMB 29 Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950 or emailed to reneacia.sannicolas@bccnmi.com.

APARTMENTS FOR RENT
Realty Management Services
Fina Sisu Terraces
Small 1-BR, 1-BTH. Unit approximately 284 sq.ft. **\$250/month.**
2-BR, 1-BTH. **\$350-\$550/month.** Close to NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted.
Ocean View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$600/month**
Sunset View Terraces
(Navy Hill) Unit Approximately 642 sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apt with private balcony & beautiful view. **\$550/month**
Hilltop Condominium
(San Vicente) Unit approximately 1,024sq/ft
Luxury 2BR & 2BTH Apt with private balcony & majestic view. **\$700/month**
Luxury 1BR & 1BTH approximately 600 sq/ft **\$500/month**
Wi-Fi & nighttime security excluded
FEATURES:
■ Fully Furnished
■ Back-up Generator
■ Air-conditioning in all rooms
■ FREE WIFI
■ Laundry Area
■ Nighttime Security
■ Ample Parking
■ 24hr water
Please visit our website at
www.saipan-properties.com
Call for an appointment
235-6527/8 or 285-1317.

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1. Food and Beverage Manager
Minimum 5 years work related experience, flexible working hours, must be familiar with russian/international cuisine.
All applicants must be able to consistently demonstrate good customer service, proven ability to management planning, have a good grasp of both practical and the strategic qualities of an F&B manager's responsibility.
Please mail resume with job references to PMB 173 Box 10001, Saipan MP 96950 or email info@ecsaipan.com. Emerald City, LLC dba Eastwest Siberia Restaurant/Jazz Cafe & Bar.
Interested U.S. applicants may call tel. 234-9157 or email resume to acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

Misamis Construction
Now Hiring
■ Carpenters
■ Masons
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CMLC ARTHA CO., LTD.
P.O.Box 500439, Saipan, MP 96950
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1 Dive Master
Salary \$1,000 – \$1,300 per month
Worker's compensation provided.
Duty Meal.
Must possess current Scuba Diving instructor license from a Professional Scuba Diving Association (PADI, NAUI, CMAS). Must have at least 2 years experience as an instructor.
Interested U.S. applicants may call tel. 234-9157 or email resume to acctg.cmlc@gmail.com

3A'S POLYSHINE
Home of 'V-KOOL' is looking for
UPHOLSTERERS: 1 (New) Position (SAIPAN & GUAM)
• Considerable knowledge of the practices and methods of upholstery works, and the use of machinery and equipment for upholstery.
• Ability to make upholstery and other repairs to furniture and interior of vehicles.
• Good knowledge of upholstery materials selections.
• Salary: Negotiable
Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as an Upholsterer.
V-KOOL Marianas USA LLC
is looking for
Window Film installer "Film Specialist": 2 (New) Positions (SAIPAN)
• Considerable knowledge of the industrial practices of adhesive window film installation.
• Ability to work with varieties of window films and window glass surfaces and must not afraid of height.
• Ability to work independent with minimum supervision.
• Salary: Negotiable
Special consideration will be given to any individual who is eager to pursue a professional career as a Film Specialist.
Submit a typed resume or call 670-235-8938 to arrange for an interview before or on **June 30th, 2014** at 3A'S POLYSHINE, CK, Beach Road.

WANTED
NEWS REPORTER
The *Saipan Tribune* is looking for a FULL-TIME news reporter.
QUALIFICATIONS
■ Can work within deadlines;
■ Fast learner, self-starter, and a team player;
■ Computer literate;
■ With photography skills;
■ Must have reliable means of transportation.
If you have what it takes to be part of a dynamic team, email your résumé and samples of your work to editor@saipantribune.com. You may also drop it off at the *Saipan Tribune* office on the second floor of the JP Center Building on Beach Road, Garapan. ON-ISLAND HIRES PREFERRED.
Saipan Tribune, Inc. is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified women, minorities, and disabled persons are encouraged to apply.

WHATZIT Solution: Don't overdo it

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as \$30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$30
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$45

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
DON'T DO IT
www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

Uehara blows save but Red Sox hold off A's, 7-6



OAKLAND, California (AP)—David Ortiz hit a leadoff home run in the 10th inning as the Boston Red Sox beat the Oakland Athletics 7-6 on Sunday to avoid a four-game sweep.

Ortiz was the only Boston starter without a hit until lining a 1-2 pitch from Fernando Abad (2-3) over the wall in left-center.

The Red Sox had to go extra innings after letting a 6-1 lead slip away. The A's scored three runs in the eighth, then Stephen Vogt and pinch-hitter John Jaso homered in the ninth against Koji Uehara (3-1). The closer had converted 31 consecutive save opportunities dating to 2013.

The A's had won five straight before Ortiz's 17th homer bailed out Boston's bullpen.

Mike Napoli and David Ross also homered for Boston, which had been limited to two runs or fewer in eight straight games.

Orioles 8, Yankees 0

In New York, Chris Tillman allowed four hits over seven innings as the Baltimore Orioles handed Yankees ace Masahiro Tanaka his second major league loss.

Jonathan Schoop homered off Tanaka (11-2) for the second time and fellow rookie Caleb Joseph capped the scoring with his first career homer. J.J. Hardy hit a three-run double for the Orioles, who spoiled Old-Timers' Day at Yankee Stadium and took two of three from their AL East rivals.

New York slugger Mark Teixeira left in the eighth after getting hit on his left foot by an 85 mph slider from T.J. McFarland. Teixeira hobbled toward first, then slammed his helmet to the ground in anger before heading into the dugout. X-rays were negative, manager Joe Girardi said.

Tillman (6-4) snapped a two-start skid, though he pitched well in those outings, and improved to 6-0 on the road — though he entered with a 6.33 ERA away from home.

Angels 5, Rangers 2

In Anaheim, California, rookie Matt Shoemaker won his fifth straight decision, and C.J. Cron and Kole Calhoun homered in the fourth inning against Yu Darvish as the Angels completed a three-game sweep of Texas.

Cron went deep for the third straight game, helping the Angels pull within five games of AL West-leading Oakland. Shoemaker (5-1) allowed a run and eight hits in 7 2-3 innings with six strikeouts and two walks.

Joe Smith allowed Brad Snyder's two-out homer in the ninth before Chris Gimenez grounded out to end the game. Snyder entered in the fourth after first baseman Donnie Murphy left because of soreness in his left knee.

Darvish (7-4) allowed five runs and five hits through six innings, striking out nine and issuing four walks — three of them to No. 7 hitter Hank Conger.

Tigers 10, Indians 4

In Cleveland, Max Scherzer pitched six strong innings, and Miguel Cabrera homered and drove in three runs as the Detroit Tigers beat Cleveland for a three-game sweep.

The Tigers, swept in a three-game series at Progressive Field last month, have won four in a row overall.



Boston Red Sox catcher David Ross tags out Oakland Athletics' Kyle Blanks during the second inning of a baseball game, Sunday, June 22, 2014, in Oakland, Calif.

Scherzer (9-3) bounced back from one of the worst outings of his career. The reigning AL Cy Young winner allowed 10 runs in four innings against Kansas City on Tuesday.

Cabrera hit his 13th homer in the first off Josh Tomlin (4-5), added an RBI single in the third and drove in a run with a grounder in the fifth when Detroit scored seven times.

Rays 5, Astros 2

In St. Petersburg, Florida, Yunel Escobar drove in two runs during a three-run sixth inning as the Tampa Bay Rays beat Houston.

Escobar hit a two-run single and Sean Rodriguez had an RBI grounder off Dallas Keuchel (8-5) to give the Rays a 4-2 lead in the sixth.

The Rays are 8-18 over their past 26 games, including five wins in seven games against Houston.

Juan Carlos Oviedo (3-2) got two outs in the sixth for the win. Joel Peralta pitched the ninth for his first save.

Royals 2, Mariners 1

In Kansas City, Missouri, rookie Roenis Elias pitched neatly into the seventh inning and Mike Zunino homered as the Seattle Mariners defeated Kansas City for a three-game sweep.

After winning 10 straight to move into first place in the AL Central, the Royals have dropped four in a row, three of them by 2-1 scores.

Elias (7-5), a 25-year-old left-hander from Cuba, limited the Royals to one run and five singles over 6 2-3 innings.

Zunino hit his ninth home run, tops among AL catchers. He connected off Yordano Ventura (5-6) leading off the seventh to break a 1-all tie.

Fernando Rodney, pitching for the fourth straight day, earned his 21st save in 23 chances.

Twins 6, White Sox 5

In Minneapolis, Joe Mauer had two hits and two RBIs as the Minnesota Twins

complete their first four-game sweep against the White Sox in 20 years.

Anthony Swarzak and Casey Fien combined for three shutout innings of relief and Jared Burton earned his first save since May 30, 2013, with a perfect ninth.

Gordon Beckham and Jose Abreu had two RBIs apiece for the White Sox, who have lost eight straight games against AL Central rivals.

The Twins last swept Chicago in a four-game series June 9-12, 1994.

Phil Hughes (8-3) lasted just five innings but got the win. In his last eight starts versus the Twins, John Danks (6-6) is 0-6 with a 6.18 ERA.

Reds 4, Blue Jays 3

In Cincinnati, Johnny Cueto pitched eight effective innings as the Cincinnati Reds beat Toronto after Blue Jays stars Brett Lawrie and Jose Bautista exited early because of injuries.

Lawrie sustained a broken right index finger when he was hit by a pitch in the second. The team didn't immediately announce how long the infielder would be out.

Bautista left because of tightness in his left leg. The All-Star outfielder had a single and a sacrifice bunt before leaving.

Cueto (7-5) gave up three runs—one earned—and leads the NL with a 1.86 ERA. Aroldis Chapman struck out the side in the ninth for his 13th save.

Todd Frazier broke a 2-all tie in the fifth with a two-run homer off R.A. Dickey (6-6).

Mets 11, Marlins 5

In Miami, Daniel Murphy hit a three-run homer as the New York Mets matched a season high with 17 hits to beat the slumping Miami Marlins.

Jonathon Niese (4-4), who has been plagued by poor run support this year, won for the first time since May 22. He allowed less than four earned runs for the 19th consecutive start,

giving up three in six innings.

Niese drove in a run with a suicide squeeze bunt, and David Wright had an RBI for the sixth game in a row.

Rookie Anthony DeSclafani (1-2), making his fourth major-league start, gave up seven runs in 3 2-3 innings and departed with a 7.59 ERA.

Nationals 4, Braves 1

In Washington, Tanner Roark won his fourth straight start and Denard Span had an RBI double as the Washington Nationals beat Atlanta for a split of the four-game series between NL East rivals.

The Nationals improved to 3-7 against Atlanta. They increased their division lead over the Braves to 1 1/2 games.

Roark (7-4) went 5 1-3 innings, allowing a run and four hits. Rafael Soriano pitched the ninth for his 17th save.

Atlanta's Evan Gattis went 0 for 3 to snap his 20-game hitting streak.

Ervin Santana (5-5) went six innings, giving up three runs and six hits.

Cardinals 5, Phillies 3

In St. Louis, Mark Ellis drove in two runs, including the go-ahead score with a bunt, as the St. Louis Cardinals got a scoreless effort from their bullpen to beat Philadelphia.

Ellis broke a 3-all tie with a safely squeeze bunt in the fourth. He added an RBI single in the sixth. He is hitting .193 with 12 RBIs in 41 games.

Carlos Martinez (1-3) allowed three runs over five innings.

Nick Greenwood, Sam Freeman, Pat Neshek and Trevor Rosenthal combined for four innings of two-hit scoreless relief. Rosenthal got his 22nd save in 25 chances.

Cody Asche drove in all three Philadelphia runs with a bases-loaded double in the second. Jimmy Rollins had a 15-game hitting streak snapped.

Kyle Kendrick (3-7) allowed five runs and eight hits in six innings.

Pirates 2, Cubs 1

In Chicago, Brandon Cumpton pitched seven scoreless innings and Travis Snider hit a solo homer as the Pittsburgh Pirates beat the Cubs.

Cumpton (3-2) won his third straight decision. He allowed two hits and two walks while striking out four.

Pirates closer Mark Melancon pitched the ninth for his 12th save in 15 chances.

Gregory Polanco had his hitting streak snapped at 11 games. The Pirates' rookie leadoff hitter had a hit in his first 11 major league games. He was 0 for 3 with a walk.

Jason Hammel (6-5) allowed two runs and six hits in seven innings.

Brewers 6, Rockies 5

In Denver, Aramis Ramirez homered and drove in two runs as the Milwaukee Brewers continued their road dominance with a win over Colorado.

Milwaukee swept the Rockies to finish 6-1 on a road trip that started in Arizona. The Brewers' 27-15 record and .643 winning percentage away from home is the best in the majors.

Kyle Lohse (9-2) allowed three runs on seven hits in five innings to win consecutive starts for the first time in a month.

Francisco Rodriguez settled down to get his 25th save in 27 chances.

Wilin Rosario homered among his four hits and had three RBIs for Colorado, which has lost six straight and fell to 6-14 in June.

Rockies rookie right-hander Tyler Matzek (1-2) was roughed up in the second.

Dodgers 2, Padres 1

In San Diego, Hyun-Jin Ryu pitched six solid innings as the Los Angeles Dodgers beat the Padres soon after San Diego's general manager Josh Byrnes was fired.

Ryu (9-3) won for the sixth time in seven starts since missing more than three weeks with shoulder inflammation.

Byrnes had been San Diego's GM since October 2011. The Padres went 76-86 in his first two seasons and are 32-44 and 13 1/2 games back in the NL West this season.

Adrian Gonzalez and Dee Gordon drove in runs against Eric Stults (2-10).

J.P. Howell pitched 1 1-3 perfect innings and Brian Wilson got two outs before Kenley Jansen finished off the four-hitter by pitching the ninth for his 22nd save in 25 chances.

Giants 4, Diamondbacks 1

In Phoenix, Madison Bumgarner gave up just two infield singles while pitching into the ninth inning as the San Francisco Giants beat Arizona.

Through eight innings, Bumgarner (9-4) allowed only Cody Ross' dribbler to the left of the mound in the second inning. Bumgarner left after an error by shortstop Brandon Crawford and then Ender Inciarte's single off the glove of third baseman Pablo Sandoval in the ninth.

Sergio Romo gave up Martin Prado's RBI single but got his second save in two nights and his 22nd save in 26 opportunities.

Diamondbacks rookie Mike Bolsinger (1-3) allowed a run and five hits in 7 2-3 innings.

Love headlines NBA vets who may influence draft

By JON KRAWCZYNSKI
AP BASKETBALL WRITER



Kevin Love was a doughy, nervous 19-year-old in 2008 when he was drafted by the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Six years later, the three-time All-Star could hear his name called on draft night—again.

College stars and international prospects may not be the only ones taking center stage on Thursday night in New York. Love, one of the best big men in the league, headlines a list of veteran NBA players who could have a major influence on how the draft unfolds.

Love's contract situation has the Timberwolves contemplating trading him, with teams like Boston, Cleveland, Chicago and Denver among those who could use first-round picks as part of a package to acquire him. Orlando's Arron Afflalo and Golden State's Klay Thompson could be on the move as well, while soon-to-be free agents like Toronto's Kyle Lowry and Phoenix's Eric Bledsoe could have a say in which direction their current teams go with draft picks.

Many of the trades that occur this time of year don't happen until teams are on the clock and can gauge what players are available to be drafted. Then they can decide whether they can get enough to part with a proven commodity like Love or Afflalo.

"For the most part, the teammates and the coaches will always, always want the certainty of the player in the locker room," said Isiah Thomas, a former player, executive and coach and current NBATV analyst. "Management will for the most part look at it from a financial aspect, culture aspect and also the type of player they are getting."

That's the conundrum the Wolves face with Love, who can opt out of his contract at the end of next season and has made it clear he plans to go elsewhere. Wolves President Flip Saunders could choose to keep Love and try to make roster moves in an effort to convince him to stay in Minnesota. But if he decides to trade him, Saunders has a couple of options:

- He can trade Love for a package of veterans in an effort to avoid a long-term rebuild.

- He could move Love in deal highlighted by draft picks, which could put the Celtics and their two first-round picks on Thursday night—Nos. 6 and 17—or the Cleveland Cavaliers, who pick first, at the top of the list potential trade partners.

Celtics President Danny Ainge told reporters in Boston on Saturday that keeping their picks was "probably the most likely scenario that happens" and Warriors general manager Bob Myers said Friday that it was "unlikely" they would be involved in a major trade on or before the draft.

But things can change in the blink of an eye.

"I say unlikely because most of the things you talk about don't happen," Myers said. "And there's no blame to be placed. It's just hard. I mean, it's hard to make deals in the NBA because it's very competitive and it has to work for both sides."

Afflalo had the best offensive season of his career for the Magic last season, averaging 18.2 points, 3.4 assists and shooting 42.7 percent on 3-pointers.



In this Wednesday, April 16, 2014, file photo, Minnesota Timberwolves forward Kevin Love (42) drives against Utah Jazz forward Jeremy Evans during the first quarter of an NBA basketball game in Minneapolis.

But he turns 29 in October, the Magic have a promising young core and are still rebuilding their roster after trading Dwight Howard a couple of years ago.

Meanwhile, the Raptors and Suns have decisions to make with their free agent point guards.

Lowry is coming off of a breakout season and was one of the biggest reasons the Raptors made a surprising surge in the East. But he also figures to garner considerable interest on a free agent market short on playmaking point guards. Toronto has the 20th overall pick in the first round, which is right around where Syracuse point guard Tyler Ennis could be selected and he could provide insurance should the Raptors lose Lowry after July 1.

Suns GM Ryan McDonough has been vocal in his belief that Bledsoe, restricted free agent, will remain in Phoenix and play alongside Goran Dragic, forming one of the most exciting young backcourts in the league.

But over the last month the Suns have worked out several point guards, including Ennis, which would appear to leave open the possibility of Bledsoe or Dragic being traded if the right deal came along. With those players, and a bevy of first-round picks in hand, the Suns could even jump into the Love sweepstakes.

"At the end of the day, the fans will love the lottery and love the potential of the draft pick. However, when that draft pick is not putting up 20 points and getting 10 rebounds, they're going to hate it," Thomas said with a hearty chuckle. "They're going to want certainty. These are the dilemmas that you face."

Sources: Knicks' Anthony headed for free agency

NEW YORK (AP)—Carmelo Anthony is putting himself on the free agent market.

Anthony has informed the New York Knicks of his long-expected plans, two people with knowledge of the details said Sunday.

Anthony had a Monday deadline to terminate the final year of his contract. He filed the paperwork on Friday, one of the people told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because no official announcements were made.

Anthony has repeatedly said he planned to explore free agency this summer. Team president Phil Jackson told the All-Star forward after the season he may want to delay the decision and play out the final year of his deal, which would have paid him \$23.3 million, but Anthony is going

ahead with his previous plans.

He told the Knicks he was sticking to his intentions during a recent meeting in Los Angeles with Jackson, general manager Steve Mills and new coach Derek Fisher, and has now made it official.

He will be eligible to negotiate with teams starting July 1.

Teams such as Chicago, Houston, Dallas and Miami have been mentioned as potential suitors for Anthony, a two-time Olympic gold medalist who led the NBA in scoring in 2012-13.

Anthony has never said he wanted to leave New York but said his biggest priority is signing with a team that he believes can contend for championships.

The Knicks went 37-45 last season, the first time Anthony missed the playoffs in his 11-year career, and have little financial ability to upgrade

the roster this summer.

The Knicks can offer Anthony, whom they acquired from Denver in a blockbuster trade in February 2011, more than \$20 million more than any team. But Anthony has said he would be willing to take less than a maximum salary for a chance to win, and Jackson has said he hopes Anthony sticks to that.

Jackson and Fisher have said the Knicks want Anthony back, but that the team would be prepared for whatever happened.

Anthony never truly got to experience the full free agency process, signing an extension of his rookie contract in 2006, then extending that deal as a condition of the trade to New York, and has said that is something that interests him.

Now he will have his chance.

Imported: Cavaliers hire David Blatt as head coach

CLEVELAND (AP)—David Blatt went overseas to chase his basketball dreams. He's coming back to fulfill them.

One of Europe's top coaches, Blatt was hired Friday by the Cavaliers, who ended a sweeping, 39-day search with an out-of-the-box selection they hope changes their fortunes.

American-born, Princeton-schooled and considered one of the game's brightest offensive minds, the 55-year-old Blatt has long been interested in coaching in the NBA and the Cavs will give him his first shot.

The club signed him to a three-year deal that includes a team option for a fourth year and could be worth \$20 million. Cleveland contacted high-profile college coaches and interviewed both retreaded head coaches and on-the-rise assistants before zeroing in and landing Blatt, who won several European titles while coaching in Israel and guided Russia to a bronze medal at the London Olympics two years ago.

"David Blatt is going to bring some of the most innovative approaches found in professional basketball anywhere on the globe," Cavs owner Dan Gilbert said. "Time and time again, from Russia to Israel and several other prominent head coaching jobs in between, David has done one thing: 'win'. He is not only an innovator, well-trained and focused on both sides of the court, but he is always learning and always teaching."

Blatt will be introduced by the team Wednesday, one day before the club picks first in this year's NBA draft.

Cleveland's third coach in three years, Blatt replaces Mike Brown, who was fired—for the second time—on May 12, a few weeks after the Cavs finished 33-49 and missed the playoffs for the fourth straight season. Blatt was not believed to be on Cleveland's radar early in its search, but that changed when he resigned at Maccabi Tel Aviv to pursue an NBA gig.

"I couldn't be more excited about the

opportunity to come to Cleveland and lead the Cavaliers as their head coach," Blatt said. "We are going to work extremely hard to achieve the kind of results we all expect and know are possible."

Blatt also was coveted as an assistant by Golden State and Minnesota, but the Cavs made him the first European coach to make the jump to the NBA.

"David is a great basketball coach and a special person," said Cavs general manager David Griffin. "His abilities to communicate, to build relationships with his players and to foster winning environments at several stops throughout Europe and across the highest levels of international competition speak for itself. He brings unbridled passion, energy and creativity to his craft."

"I have watched David's work for many years. He has an uncanny ability to adapt his system to maximize the talents of his teams year after year. That is why I am very confident he will make a smooth transition to the NBA."

Docomo, Pelicans survive first round

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Docomo Pacific kept its title defense hopes alive after outlasting Maplas in overtime, 107-99, at the start of the playoff round in the 2014 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Sunday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Maplas lost momentum after a power outage in the second quarter, committed passing errors in the closing seconds of the regulation, and was held to one field goal in the first three minutes of the extension period, allowing Docomo to pull off the win. Docomo is now in the quarterfinals and faces Island Manpower tonight, while Maplas was eliminated.

Maplas was threatening to break away leading at 44-35, when the power at the gym went off. The game resumed after about 20 minutes and the lull helped Docomo regroup and by the end of the first half, the defending champions managed to grab the lead, 51-50.

It was a seesaw battle from thereon with Docomo failing to win the match

in regulation after missing two triples, committing one error, and making only one free throw. Marlon Sison nailed the split that tied the match at 92-all, with 1:10 left and Maplas also failed to break the deadlock with Rolly Paraiso throwing three wide baseball passes. Maplas attempted the last shot in regulation, but Edmark Mendoza's finger roll did not have enough spin and rattled off to the left side of the rim as time expired, sending the match into overtime.

In the extension, Maplas went on a 7-0 tear and never looked back. Jason Hayes came off the bench, relieving the winded Tony Diaz and opened Docomo's scoring with a baseline triple to beat the 24-second shot clock. James Villacrusis added two free throws, while Juan Camacho nailed an under-goal stab for a 99-92 lead, going into the last two minutes of the match.

Maplas moved within 4 off a 7-4 exchange and had a chance to move closer, but committed another errant pass, while Bruce Berline sealed it for Docomo with his back-to-back baskets.

Meanwhile, the Pelicans also advanced to the quarterfinals against TBK after defeating Puerto Rico

Bento, 109-93.

The Pelicans went all out in the second half after falling behind at the break to march into the next round. Behind at 48-54, the Pelicans unloaded 34 big points in the third period to turn the tables on Puerto Rico, 81-75. The Pelicans kept going in the fourth canto for the double-digit winning margin.

First Game

Pelicans 109 – Ogumoro 19, Santos 19, Brennan 16, Reyes 11, Camacho 10, B. Lizama 10, Babauta 8, Yamada 3, Namelo 3.

Puerto Rico 93 – Fitia 33, Saplan 25, Sacramento 15, Salalila 11, Towun 7, Ito 2.

Scoring by quarters: 23-30, 48-54, 82-75, 109-93.

Second Game

Docomo 107 – Villacrusis 23, Sison 21, Camacho 16, Diaz 15, Hayes 11, Berline 10, Sanciangco 4, Tudela 2.

Maplas 99 – R. Usi 28, Mendoza 20, Fernando 16, Paraiso 15, Odicta 8, M. Usi 7, Anicete 2, Rivera 1.

Scoring by quarters: 25-25, 51-50, 69-69, 92-92, 107-99 (OT).



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Three Docomo Pacific players challenge the shot of Maplas' Angelo Fernando during their game in the DL Corp. caging last Sunday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

Kevin Steelman wins Travelers Championship



TRAVELERS
CHAMPIONSHIP

CROMWELL, Conn. (AP)—As much as Kevin Steelman enjoys the back nine at TPC River Highlands, even he didn't think he what he accomplished Sunday was possible.

Steelman birdied the last seven holes to win the Travelers Championship by a stroke, shooting his second straight 6-under 64 to finish at 15-under 265.

"It's probably my favorite nine holes on the PGA Tour," Steelman said. "But you can't plan for something like that to happen. It just kind of falls into place."

He broke the tour record for consecutive closing birdies by a winner of six set by Mike Souchak in the 1956 St. Paul Open. He matched the tournament record with a 7-under 28 on the final nine.

"I had 10 one-putts in a row," Steelman said. "That's something I've definitely never done before."

Also the Tampa Bay Championship winner last season, the 35-year-old Steelman missed the cuts in his previous four starts on tour.

"I didn't have too many expectations coming here," said Steelman, who earned \$1.12 million for the victory.

Sergio Garcia and K.J. Choi tied for second. They each shot 67.

Aaron Baddeley was fourth at 13 under after a 69.

Steelman was 1 over for the day before starting the birdie run on No. 12. The streak reached five with a 37-foot putt at No. 16, and he capped it by hitting a wedge to 9 feet and rolling in another putt at No. 18.

"I knew when that putt fell on 16 that something kind of special was happening," Steelman said.

Steelman said he hasn't focus on golf exclusively lately, trying to spend more time with wife Courtney and 6-month-old daughter Sophie.

PRESTLEY

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timing in at 45:14 in the run leg against the 49:45 of the Guam triathlete. Prestley had split times of 27:06 and 1:15:03 in the swim and run, respectively, while O'Neal registered 23:39 and 1:08:48.

Joining O'Neal and Prestley in the Top 3 was another CNMI triathlete, Tyce Mister. Mister submitted 2:32:05, recording a faster swim time than Prestley with 24:57 and remained in second place in the division after logging 1:10:13 in the bike leg, but settled for third place when he posted 55:33 in the run part.

Completing the finishers in the men's open Olympic distance race were Guam's Dave Torre and the CNMI's Butch Sublemente, who timed in at 2:36:26 and 2:56:37, respectively. Sublemente had split times of 33:52,

1:26:41, and 53:50.

In the women's division, Amy Sletten gave the CNMI another podium finish when she bagged third place. He was one of the five triathletes in her division to break the three-hour barrier after clocking in at 2:52:49 with split times of 33:57, 1:23:15, and 54:24. Sletten joined Papua New Guinea's Susi Pini (2:30:51) and Rachel James (2:45:40) in the Top 3.

Sletten's fellow CNMI triathlete Kaitlin Mattos also completed the race under three hours with a division fourth-best time of 2:54:49, beating four other participants, including another Commonwealth bet Kimiko McKagan (3:03:08). Mattos posted 34:33 in the swim leg and registered 1:24:14 and 1:01:34 in the bike and run parts, respectively, while McKagan's split times were 33:17, 1:24:42, and 1:02:38.

Meanwhile, the four other CNMI

triathletes—Florence Antonio, Joshua Berger, Manny Sitchon, and Brad Ruszala—joined the age group divisions of the Olympic distance race. Antonio was the fastest among the four, completing the event in 3:03:38 for a fifth place finish in the men's 50 to 59 age group. Sitchon was in the same group and placed seventh with a time of 3:22:11. Sitchon had a better swim time (33:59) than Antonio (38:47), but fell behind the latter, who recorded 1:19:35 and 1:00:20 in the last two legs versus the former's 1:26:44 and 1:18:10.

Berger entered the over 60 age group and had the best split time in the swim leg among the four age group participants with his 32:28. He then logged 1:24:51 and 1:06:56 in the bike and run legs for a total time of 3:07:28. He won his age group, downing Guam's Killy Kunimoto (3:07:44)

and Robert Bevacqua (4:24:36).

Ruszala joined the 40 to 49 age group and came in at seventh place with a combined time of 3:24:55 and splits of 34:19, 1:32:24, and 1:15:02.

Meanwhile, former CNMI pro triathlete Mieke Carey was the first female finisher in the race and topped the 30 to 39 age group after tallying 2:20:26, the second best time overall. Her fellow Guam triathlete Shin Miyagi owned the fastest time in the field at 2:19:13 and the latter also ruled the men's 30 to 39 age group.

Around 200 joined the weekend race, which also featured the sprint course.

Jerome Diyco was the CNMI's lone entry in the sprint course and timed in at 2:58:58. He raced against Guam and PNG triathletes in the men's open division and placed ninth with split times of 35:07 (750m swim), 1:16:19 (20K bike), and 1:05:32 (5K run).

JERICO

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"I just want to thank the whole Adamson community; the coaches, staff, management, professors, and students. This isn't really goodbye, I will still get my diploma and be a proud Falcon alumnus," said Cruz.

"It was really a hard decision to make but I hope that the [Adamson community] will understand. I would like to continue playing for my school but I really think this is the best time to join the draft with new teams joining the PBA."

Blackwater, Kia Motors, and

NLEX will make their debut when the league opens its 40th season in October giving rookies and free agents more chance to play.

Being a new father also helped Cruz in making the decision of joining the draft. "I have a better chance of playing in the PBA this year."

Cruz was drafted by Blackwater in last year's PBA Development League. He was a member of the Philippine team that won the basketball gold medal in the 2013 Southeast Asian Games in Myanmar.

In last season's UAAP, Cruz averaged 14.5 points, 4.4 rebounds, and 3.3 assists with the Falcons, who finished

seventh with a 4-10 record.

Cruz started his basketball career on Saipan where he helped the CNMI finish sixth in the 2008 International Basketball Federation-Oceania Youth tournament and in the process was voted as one of the Top 5 players.

He was then named to the All Star team of the 2009 FIBA-Oceania tournament where he suited up for the CNMI seniors team.

Cruz then decided to try his luck in the Philippines where he initially played for Rizal Technological University in 2010 the same year when the Blue Thunder ruled the State Colleges and Universities Athletic

Association.

He was also a member of RTU's two-time runner-up squad in the National Capital Region Athletic Association where the Blue Thunder lost to Olivares College and Colegio de Sta. Monica in 2010 and 2011. He was a member of the Mythical Team in 2011.

Cruz was spotted by then Adamson coach Leo Austria while playing in a tournament in Bacolod City. He averaged 10.1 points per game in his first tour of duty with the Falcons in the 2011 FilOil Flying V Preseason tournament then normed 12.3 markers per outing in his rookie year with Adamson in the 2012 UAAP season.

US

From Page 28

Thursday. The winner wins the group, and a draw advances both teams to the round of 16. Even the loser has a chance, depending on what happens in the Ghana-Portugal game.

"Every game now is getting bigger," U.S. coach Jurgen Klinsmann said. "Our goal is to go into the next round."

Algeria beat South Korea 4-2 earlier Sunday for its first World Cup win since 1982 and just the third victory by an African team in 10 World Cup games here. The Algerians became the

first African team to score four goals in a World Cup match.

Russia's hopes of moving to the knockout stages were diminished by its 1-0 loss to Belgium in Rio de Janeiro. Belgium became the sixth country to qualify for the next stage. The others so far are the Netherlands, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Argentina. Cameroon, Bosnia, Australia, Spain and England are definitely out.

"It's spectacular. Everybody has prepared unbelievably well. They are sharp and fit and giving their all," Netherlands coach Louis van Gaal said of the quality of play. "I haven't had that

feeling had at previous World Cups. ... People aren't giving it all right up until the final minute - that's why you get these results."

It has certainly been a scoring festival in the land of Carnival.

■ The goal total for the tournament climbed to 94. In South Africa, the first 32 matches produced 67 goals, seven of them scored by Portugal in just one match against North Korea.

■ The first half of the last World Cup included 10 draws. In Brazil, there have been just six.

■ Crowds have been big and loud, particularly for Latin American teams, eight

of which could qualify for the final 16.

Things haven't been so great for Asian teams.

South Korea teeters on the verge of elimination after the loss. Asia is at risk of having no team in the next round.

Australia is already sure to be going home, regardless of whether it wins its last match against dethroned champion Spain. Iran, Japan and Korea could follow Australia out the door, even if they win their last matches.

Korea's loss worsened Asian teams' already dismal record to: played eight games, won none, after 11 days of competition.

2014 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League

PHOTOS BY ROSELYN B. MONROYO



Ali'i's Kobe Mendoza pulls up for a floater against three I Love Saipan defenders during their title game in the 2014 DL Corp. Invitational Basketball League last Sunday night at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.



I Love Saipan's Gyles Ruloked goes up for a short jumper.



I Love Saipan's Mike Olaitiman drives against three Ali'i defenders.



Ali'i's Karlo De Leon attempts a short jumper.



I Love Saipan's White Capalad is forced to look for teammate to pass the ball to while being tightly guarded by Ali'i's Ivan Devero.



Ali'i's Ivan Devero goes for a point-blank shot.



Ali'i's Marlon De Dios goes for a putback against I Love Saipan's Gyles Ruloked.



I Love Saipan's Larry Sharry, left, and Ali'i's Bart Demapan jockey for position in the rebound play.



I Love Saipan's Larry Sharry, left, and Gyles Ruloked battle Ali'i's Marlon De Dios for the rebound.



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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Prestley leads CNMI finishers in Guam race

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Peter Prestley and 10 other CNMI triathletes completed the 2014 Guam National Championships and Pacific Islands Championships Triathlon held last Sunday in Merizo.

Prestley emerged as the fastest Commonwealth bet in the Olympic distance race, finishing the 1.5-kilometer swim, 40.23 K bike, and 10K run in 2:28:47. He was the second placer in the men's open division and sixth overall, less than six minutes behind champion Cameron O'Neal of Guam, who clocked in at 2:23:01.

The CNMI top finisher managed to chop off the more than 10-minute lead of O'Neal after the first two legs after pushing in the last phase of the race and

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CNMI triathletes pose for a group photo after completing their respective races in last Sunday's 2014 Guam National Championships and Pacific Islands Championships Triathlon.

Jericho to enter PBA draft

By JON PEREZ
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE



MANILA, Philippines —

Jericho Cruz's dream of playing in the Philippine Basketball Association will finally come true this year as the do-it-all guard decided to skip his final playing year of eligibility for Adamson University to join the rookie draft in August.

Cruz's decision had Adamson University head coach Kenneth Duremdes losing his No. 1 offensive option and is a big blow to the Soaring Falcons' campaign in the upcoming 77th University Athletic Association of the Philippines men's basketball wars, which opens on July 12.

The 22-year-old combo guard said he informed Duremdes and the entire coaching staff of his decision and they gave their support. He then thanked the entire Adamson community for the two years he played for the Falcons.

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US draws, Belgium advances, Algeria wins

By JANIE McCAULEY
AP SPORTS WRITER



The goals kept coming at the World Cup Sunday and—unfortunately for the U.S.—the scoring didn't stop until the last 30 seconds of its 2-2 draw with Portugal. Both teams stayed alive, while Belgium advanced and Algeria won its first World Cup game in 32 years.

No teams were eliminated Sunday, but South Korea, Russia and Portugal are on the brink.

An already successful World Cup in Brazil reached its midpoint with another thriller, players' shirts soaked through and sticky from the humid, steamy conditions in the Amazon rainforest. The Americans were moments away from clinching advancement out of the "Group of Death," when



AP

Portugal's Silvestre Varela heads the ball past United States' goalkeeper Tim Howard to score his side's second goal and tie the game 2-2 during the group G World Cup soccer match between the USA and Portugal at the Arena da Amazonia in Manaus, Brazil, Sunday, June 22, 2014.

world player of the year Cristiano Ronaldo made an improbable cross for Varela's diving header and equalizer.

Varela's score capped another day of goals. One third of the games—or 11 total—have featured four or more goals. Thirty-two games down, 32 to go.

"We've got a great chance in the 'Group of Death,' they say," U.S. goalkeeper Tim Howard said. "I think we had one foot in the door. Realistically we've given ourselves every chance to advance. We're optimistic."

The U.S. plays Germany
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